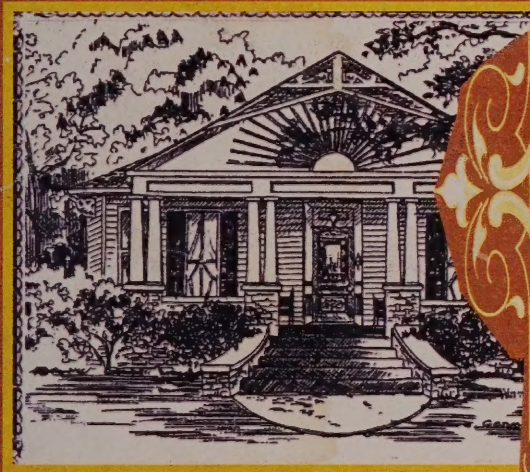


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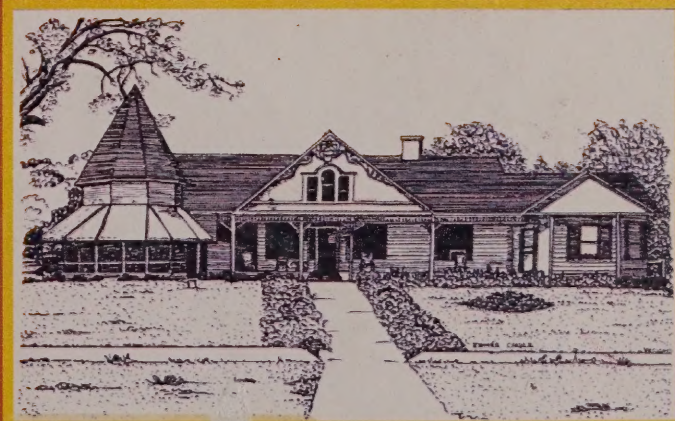
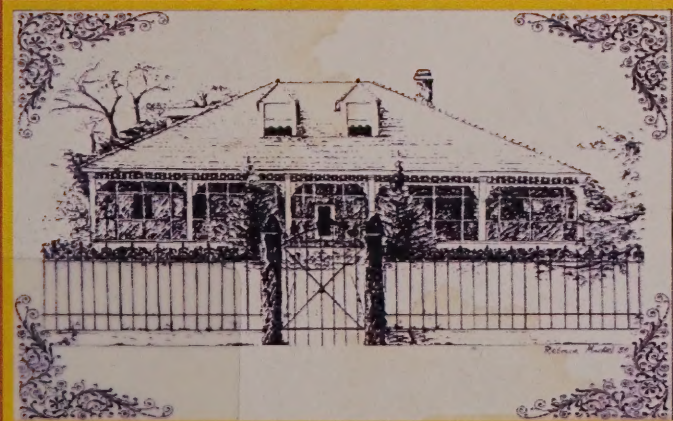
HANCOCK COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEMS

BAY SAINT LOUIS

MISSISSIPPI



1699
CELEBRATING
THE
FIRST
300
YEARS
1999



REFERENCE ONLY

REFERENCE ONLY

HANCOCK COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
HDQTRS: CITY - COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
312 HIGHWAY 90
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39520-3585

Driving Tour of Bay Saint Louis

The Bay of Saint Louis

To begin a driving tour of Bay Saint Louis, begin at the Bay Saint Louis/Waveland City limits and drive northward nine blocks to Main Street.

Turn left on Main Street and continue three blocks to Necaise.

Turn left on Necaise Street and continue to Union Street.

Turn left on Union Street, cross the railroad tracks. The depot is on your left. Old Town is directly in front of you. To your right one half block is the Scaife house.

After seeing these three places, drive northward on Blaize Avenue.

Follow Blaize Avenue around the curve to Second Street.

Turn left on Second Street to Court Street.

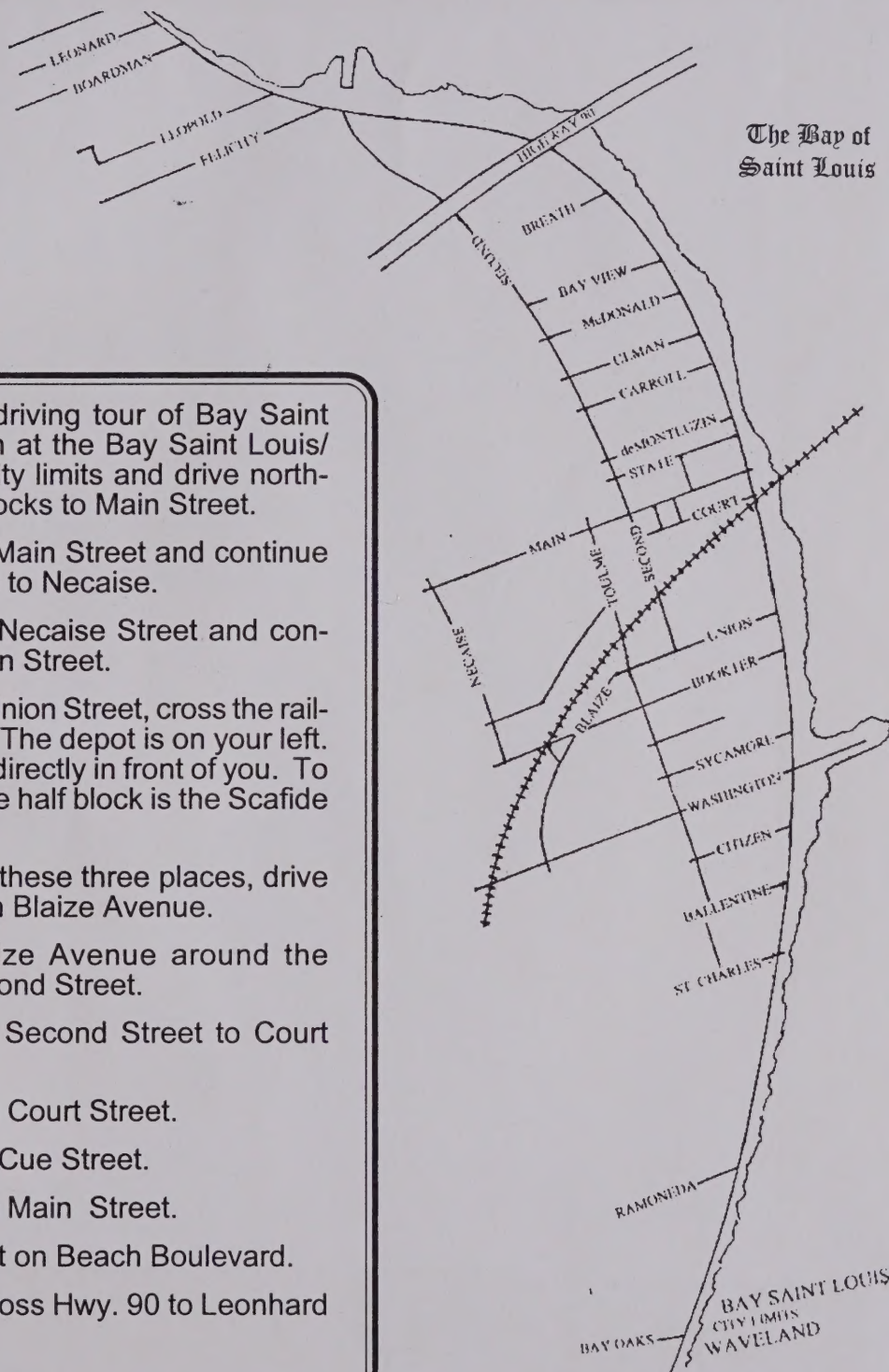
Turn right on Court Street.

Turn left on Cue Street.

Turn right on Main Street.

Then turn left on Beach Boulevard.

Continue across Hwy. 90 to Leonhard Avenue.



BAY SAINT LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

Commemorating

300 YEARS

HANCOCK COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
HDQTRS: CITY - COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
312 HIGHWAY 90
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39520-3585

A presentation to the Citizens
and Friends of
the City of
Bay Saint Louis



Published and Printed by
The Hancock County Historical Society
Charles H. Gray, President

First Edition, July 1998

BAY SAINT LOUIS

A PLACE APART

Dear Citizens,

How exciting to be celebrating our 300th anniversary of European discovery! Bay Saint Louis began its reputation as a city of hospitality when the first American Indian extended his hand to welcome the French explorers. We continue to extend our hand in welcome to people from all over the world who now make Bay Saint Louis their home. This cultural diversity is a reason for celebration at this special time of our history.

Over the centuries man has learned to travel without fear of falling off the earth. We travel through space with the same courage Bienville traveled the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico to explore our unknown shores.

Bay Saint Louis is blessed with citizens of integrity and creativity. We have carved for ourselves a special environment in which to live, work and play. We enjoy and preserve our unique heritage, understanding how Mother Nature can quickly change our landscape.

We cherish what remains and encourage the new story-tellers of our past.



It has been my privilege to be selected to help lead the City of Bay Saint Louis, not only through the celebration of her Tercentenary but into the new millennium. With this celebration comes the responsibility to meet our challenges with the strength and ingenuity that makes Bay SaintLouis A Place Apart.

I join the City Council and your city employees to wish you and your family success and prosperity. Together we can continue to have progress with preservation and protection. Together, we will set the pace for Bay Saint Louis to always be A Place Apart.

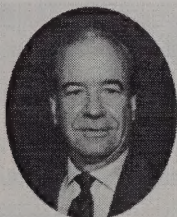
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Back row: Tad Black, Carleen Murphy Moran.
Center row: Mayor Edward A. Favre, Connie Payne Lampley. Front row: James C. Thriffiley III, James J. Rutherford.

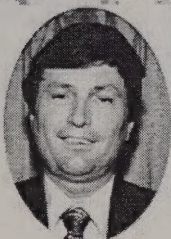
Edward A. Favre
Mayor

HANCOCK COUNTY

Hancock County was organized in 1812 and was named for John Hancock, the first signer of the Declaration of Independence. It was divided in half in 1841 when Harrison County was created from its eastern part. In 1890 Pearl River County was established from the northern half of Hancock County, and in 1909 an additional area including Picayune city was removed from Hancock and assigned to Pearl River County.



Lyonie "Jeep" Ladner
Beat 1



Roderick "Rocky" Pullman
Beat 2



Edward Murtagh
Tax Collector



Pamela Metzler
Circuit Clerk



Steve Seymour
Beat 4



Ronald Peterson
Sheriff



Timothy Keljar
Chancery Clerk



Philip Moran
Beat 5



Lisa Cowand
Beat 3



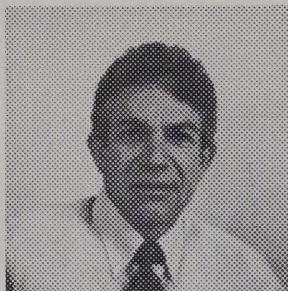
John Mason
Mayor



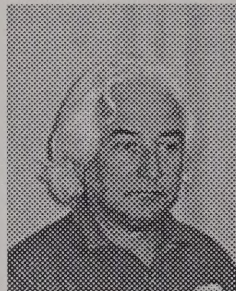
City Hall
1893



John Thomas Longo
Alderman, Ward 1



Jay Fleuriot
Alderman, Ward 2



Louie Smolensky
Alderman, Ward 3



Al Kingston
Alderman, Ward 4

WAVELAND

The beautiful city of Waveland was referred to as Grand Bend by James Cuevas in his memoirs of 1850 and after the coming of the railroad in 1870 it was sometimes called Montgomery Station, the name of the railroad station which was located there. By many it was considered a part of Shieldsboro until March 1888, when an application for a charter as a separate municipality was filed and a city was founded. The Town Hall was built in 1893.

The first mayor was L. H. Fairchild and there were two aldermen, Alfred A. Ulman, a successful woolen miller, and Olus Bourgeois, town marshal. A post office had been established in October 1875, with Joseph Carrio as the first Postmaster.

The major business in the 1880s was the Ulman Woolen Mill located on Nicholson Avenue where black and white plaid wool blankets and shawls were the principal product of the mill. However, prominent New Orleans families built spacious and comfortable summer homes along the shore. They arrived in early Spring to enjoy the fresh breeze not available in New Orleans. Businessmen commuted daily by train to their offices in the city.

Today the city is a thriving community with an excellent base in businesses located mostly along Highway 90, while the charm of the old town remains undisturbed by the complexities of progress.

PEARLINGTON

The little town of Pearlington sits on the east bank of the Pearl River, the natural boundary between Mississippi and Louisiana. The river was named for the fresh water pearls found on its shore, and the town took its name from the river.

The first known white settler, Simon Favre, lived on the Pearl River in 1777, a mile north of Pearlington. For his work as interpreter between the French and the Choctaw Indians, Favre received the first land grant in what is now Hancock County.

By 1810 new roads and trails encouraged settlers moving west from the Atlantic coastal regions. Some 20 families chose the Pearl River area, making it the most populated settlement from Mobile to New Orleans. Pearlington served as a staging area for Gen. Andrew Jackson's launch into New Orleans in the War of 1812.

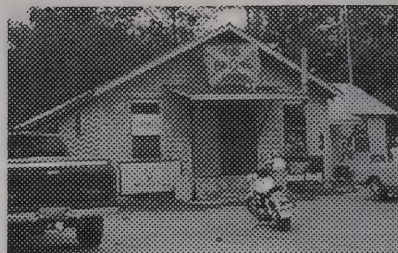
Incorporated in 1821, Pearlington covered 500 to 600 acres and was a principal city of south Mississippi and one of the pioneering lumber towns of this once-important lumbering area. By 1900 its population was 1,700 and the town boasted many large homes as well as a bank and well-stocked stores of the lumber companies.

With the decline of the lumber industry in the 1930s, many beautiful homes like the one below suffered the same fate before other employers brought new prosperity. Pearlington lies within ten miles of two of the largest employers in Hancock County: Port Bienville Industrial Park down river and Stennis Space Center up river. Many of the pioneer families still live in town or nearby and work at these facilities, but the calm beauty of this area of ancient live oaks hung with Spanish moss beckons the workers home at the end of the work day.



The T.M. Favre home stood at Levee Avenue, corner of Franklin Street

The Broke Spoke has received national publicity since Brett Favre of the Green Bay Packers has frequented the bar in recent years.



THE KILN

"The Kill", as Kiln is always pronounced by locals, received its name from the huge kilns for burning charcoal built by the early French settlers. A more popular, though inaccurate, explanation is that during Prohibition it was a center for moonshine making and distribution.

In any event, sawmilling became the chief industry when Samuel L. Favre built a sawmill on the bank of the Jourdan River about the time of the Civil War. This mill was purchased in 1913 by Edward Hines. So prosperous was this industry that a rail line was built to Lumberton, passenger trains were brought in and a hotel of fifty rooms was built. There was a modern two-story school, a theater, drugstores, doctors' offices and more than one thousand homes.

The Kiln remains an



Jourdan River Lumber Company Hotel

unincorporated community with easy access to the larger urban areas of Bay Saint Louis, Waveland, Picayune, Slidell and New Orleans.

It is also a natural choice for homes of employees at the nearby Stennis Space Center and Stennis International Airport. A new library with

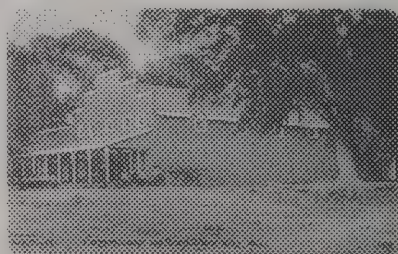
facilities for research, technical assistance and pleasure reading is under construction.

The Kiln is located on State Highway 603, a major north-south access route from the coast and county seat at Bay Saint Louis to Interstate 10 and all points north.



Jourdan River Lumber Company

McLeod Water Park lies just south of the Kiln. It contains 328 acres and was named in honor of Albert J. and Virginia McLeod. Mr. McLeod operated a sawmill, a stave mill, a planer mill, a turpentine plant and a general mercantile store until his death in 1931. Mrs. McLeod continued operation of the old store until her death in 1975.



The Commissary and Drug Store



Diamondhead Yacht Club

DIAMONDHEAD

In 1969, the heirs of Walter J. Gex Jr. sold 5,000 acres to the Diamondhead Corp., later renamed Purcell; another 1,000 acres was bought from smaller landowners to make up the Diamondhead community.

Purcell built streets, water and sewer utilities, homes and golf courses, tennis courts, stables, airport, hotel and recreation centers in 1970. Under the sales covenants, all amenities were turned over to the Diamondhead Property Owners Association in 1985.

An enclave designed to emulate a tropical island, Diamondhead yacht and country clubs resemble grand thatched huts, its streets bearing the names of Hawaiian royalty. Built with affluent retirees in mind, its earliest settlers, besides retirees, were employees of the National Space Technology Laboratories, later renamed Stennis Space Center.

Diamondhead lies on the highest elevation in the three Coast counties, rising to 105 feet. Surrounded by Cutoff Bayou and Bayou Beneshewah (Choctaw for Rotten Bayou), it straddles Interstate 10 and borders the smaller communities of Fenton to the north and Kiln to the east.

By the mid-80s, the population was 2,000, with 1,400 homes, some of them second homes for commuters from New Orleans or midwestern snow birds who fly down for golf in January. Today, Diamondhead is a self-sufficient community with its own stores, professional offices and churches. There are 2,854 homes of which 500 are condominiums or townhouses; the population, 6,000 at the end of 1997, is still growing.

BAY-WAVELAND GARDEN CLUB

The first garden club of Hancock County, with 19 ladies as charter members, was founded September 27, 1938 and named the Bay-Waveland Garden Club. Since 1939 the club has participated in the annual "Pilgrimage", opening homes and gardens on the Gulf Coast to visitors.

The Club has also participated in the annual Arbor Day Celebration, Christmas Lighting Decoration contest, Clear-the-Beach Day, and Flower Show. It initiated landscaping the approach to Highway 90 bridge at Bay St. Louis, planting 200 trees along Interstate 10 and Highway 607 at the Hospitality Center, and planting 1200 trees for the Mississippi Bicentennial "Avenue of Magnolias" on Interstate 10. It planted a wildflower garden at Buccaneer Park, and participated in "H.A.N.D.S." (Homes for a Neighborhood Development Service) sponsored by the Sears Foundation.



THE BAY-WAVELAND GARDEN CLUB
114 Leonhard Avenue

"GATHER YE ROSEBUDS"

"Gather Ye Rosebuds" was organized in August 1995 by Melinda Richard with some help from Cynthia Lowe. Their aim was to share a love of roses and transform others into rosarians.

Four public gardens have been established, funded and maintained by the society under the direction of Mr. Jim Bell. These gardens are located at the Kate Lobrano House, the Depot, the Senior Citizens Center and the Grotto at Saint Augustine Seminary. One single rose has been planted on the corner of 2nd and Court Streets in memory of Virginia Baxter Larroux, and another at St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church in memory of Maggie Dantagnan Hayden.

In 1998 "Buds" entered the Mississippi Coast Council of Garden Clubs. Five homes, one garden, the Library and the Tourist Bureau were among the stops that were visited by over 500 guests on the 51st Pilgrimage.

The society meets monthly at the Kate Lobrano House and new events are being developed such as a rose society show and participation in the Tercentennial events.



Old Garden Roses provided for a Historical Society luncheon by "Gather Ye Rosebuds"

BAY SAINT LOUIS LITTLE THEATER

Bay Saint Louis Little Theater has brought the New York stage to the Mississippi coast since 1946, making it the oldest community theater in the region.

The first productions were held in borrowed buildings and school auditoriums. In 1948 the theater acquired the property on Boardman Avenue where volunteers erected its playhouse using two army surplus barracks from the C.B. base in Gulfport.

The rustic building, whose auditorium, with excellent acoustics, seats 140 and which boasts "not a bad seat in the house," has changed little over the years except for some refurbishment including air conditioning. Bay Saint Louis Theater has continued to rely on dedicated volunteers who have earned the theater a reputation for staging challenging plays and musicals.



Bay Saint Louis Little Theater

THE DEPOT

On October 29, 1870 the final spike was driven and the railroad was finally opened between Mobile and New Orleans. The new depot was opened with elaborate festivities befitting the new center of civic activity. Families could now remain in the Bay all summer while the husbands commuted to their offices in New Orleans.

This new easy access to New Orleans created a boom in building, as families built larger and more elaborate summer homes and extended their summer vacations to several months every year, returning to the city only because of the dictates of schools and the social season.

Nearly five decades later, the large building was completely destroyed by fire on March 8, 1928. For a period the operational facilities were moved to the Saint Stanislaus gym and later to the Masonic Temple on Main Street. Construction on the new (present) depot was begun in October and the new building was dedicated on April 20th, just over a year after the fire. The exterior of the new building is Spanish Revival style architecture that was made popular throughout the Southeast in the 1920s by Palm Beach architect Addison Mizener.

After commuter service was suspended in the 1960s the station lay virtually unused for a number of years until it received a complete reconstruction in 1996 by the city of Bay Saint Louis.

This renovation, at a cost of nearly one million dollars, was done under the supervision of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.



First Depot built 1870 burned March 8, 1928



New Depot building, 1929



Hancock County Historical Society Board of Directors

Left to right: Cathy Benvenuti, Marlene Johnson, JoAnn Mumme, Charles Gray, Meg Hilliker, Ames Kergosien, Edith Back, Roland Schexnayder. Not pictured: Brehm Bell.

From the *Centennial* to the *Tercentenary*

In 1958 The Bay Saint Louis Centennial Corporation presented wonderful festivities in honor of the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of our lovely city. There were costumes and parades and an historically important book was published to mark the occasion.

However, being the lovely lady that our city is, she was not quite truthful about her age. In fact, she shaved 40 years from her past. Bay Saint Louis was incorporated under her maiden name, Shieldsboro, on January 4, 1818, making her the oldest incorporated city in Mississippi, as well as the oldest incorporated city on the Gulf of Mexico.

The cover of the book mentioned above reads, "*Bay St. Louis Mississippi 1858 Celebrating 100 YEARS of Incorporation 1958*," designed and published by Nel Ducomb of the Mississippi Monitor. With the approaching Tercentenary in 1999, the Board of Directors of the Hancock County Historical Society thought it appropriate to publish a sequel to that book, recording the founding, development and present "state of the city." Therefore, we present "*Bay Saint Louis Mississippi, 1699-1999: Celebrating the First 300 Years*."

There have been numerous delightful books written about Bay Saint Louis and we have combined stories from many of them. Among our favorites are: *Along the Gulf*, 1894; *Sketch Book of Hancock County*, 1908; *The Coast of Mississippi*, published by Hancock Bank; *Mississippi Gulf Coast: Portrait of a People* by Charles Sullivan; *Bay St. Louis Mississippi 1858 Celebrating 100 Years of Incorporation 1958*; *A History of Mississippi* by R.A. McLemore; *Mississippi as a Province, Territory and State* by J.F.H. Claiborne; and *Journal of the Frigate 'Le Marin' and Fleur de Lis and Calumets* by Andre Penicaut.



Bay St. Louis.. Early History

Bay Saint Louis overlooks the Bay of Saint Louis, the Mississippi Sound and, ultimately, the Gulf of Mexico from the highest water-front elevation on the Gulf of Mexico. However, this beautiful little city is not the first cultural center to occupy this prestigious location. The exact date when Native Americans first arrived is veiled in the mysteries of time, but it is certain that they occupied this land for thousands of years before the brothers Iberville and Bienville arrived to claim it for France in 1699.

The oral history of the Indians that was passed down to us through generations both fascinates and gives us endless sources for speculation. Every question answered brings a dozen more elusive than the last. While this is also true of the Europeans, there is somewhat more documentation available for research.

The “pagan world” had been divided by Pope Alexander VI between Portugal and Spain with Portugal controlling Brazil and Spain controlling nearly all the rest of both North and South America. Spain, however, being unable to settle these vast continents effectively, guarded the Gulf of Mexico from several islands in the Caribbean and from St. Augustine on the west coast of the Florida peninsula.

In 1535 the French explorer Jacques Cartier explored the St. Lawrence River Valley in Canada, but France was unable to occupy the area until 1604 when a settlement at Port Royal, Nova Scotia was established and was followed in 1608 by the settlement at Quebec.

When affairs in Europe permitted, Louis XIV of France began expanding his colonial possessions. In 1682, La Salle descended the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, and claimed the vast area drained by the Mississippi in the name of France. He named Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV. Two years later he sailed from France to secure a harbor on the Gulf Coast and establish control over the mouth of the river. However, he missed the elusive mouth of the river and died after being shipwrecked in present-day Texas.

War between France and England engulfed Canada before another expedition could be launched. England took Port Royal but was unable to capture Quebec. A young Canadian named Pierre LeMoyne, Sieur d'Iberville distinguished himself in the capture of the British settlements at Hudson's Bay for which he was appointed Governor. In 1694 he successfully attacked a superior force of British ships and the following year he captured Fort Bourbon and further distinguished himself with additional naval victories.

After the Treaty of Ryswick in September, 1697, Louis XIV directed his minister of finance, Comte Pontchartrain, to immediately commission LeMoyne, Sieur d'Iberville to locate the mouth of the legendary Mississippi River and establish a colony there to secure for France the area drained by the river.

Iberville Departed France

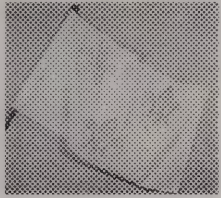
The French explorers first sailed from La Rochelle, France on September 5th but were forced to put into the port at Brest, France, for repairs because one of the ships had begun taking on water. Finally, on October 24th they lifted anchor opposite Brest at 7 o'clock in the morning. The flotilla consisted of two frigates, Le Badine, of thirty guns and two hundred men, commanded by Pierre d'Iberville, and Le Marin, of thirty guns commanded by the Comte de Surgere, in company with two store ships. Aboard these ships were some two hundred colonists, mostly Canadians who had gone to France to assist in her defense. Among them were some women and children. When they arrived at Santo Domingo, they found Le Francois, a frigate of fifty guns, commanded by the Marquis de Chateau Morant, who was instructed to accompany them.

Iberville's little fleet arrived off the coast of Pensacola on January 26th, 1699, and found two frigates in the harbor and about three hundred Spaniards building fortifications. Spain had learned of King Louis XIV's plan to establish a colony on the Gulf of Mexico and had hastily sent the ships to Pensacola Bay in advance of the French. They had constructed highly visible fortifications which gave the impression of an established colony which they called Sante Maria de Galves de Pensacola. The French explained their presence by claiming to be searching for sailors lost in a storm. The Spanish refused the French ships entry into the harbor but supplied them with requested wood and water.

They then proceeded westward along the coastline, arriving off Mobile Bay on February 5th. They explored an island on which were strewn the bones of men whom they assumed to have been killed in battle, but it is more likely they were victims of the yellow fever epidemic which struck the Indians the previous year. The French called this island Ile Massacre.

Iberville Arrived at the Mississippi Gulf Coast

Working their way westward inside the channel islands, they finally arrived on February 10, 1699, at an island they called Ile aux Vaisseaux (Ship Island). On the 11th and 12th they explored the island, bringing their cattle ashore to graze. Then they raised the flag of their king and country.



The Fleur de Lis of France 1699-1763

They remained on the Ile aux Vaisseaux the following day because of bad weather. On the 13th Iberville and his brother Bienville with a party of thirteen men went ashore, sailing due north from the west end of the island. Their landing would have been somewhere between present-day Beauvoir and Edgewater.

The following morning they explored eastward along the beach, following tracks in the sand until they caught sight of three Indians in a canoe leaving Deer Island. Iberville pursued them across Biloxi Bay, catching up just as they reached shore at Ocean Springs. The younger natives fled into the woods leaving an old and dying man. The Frenchmen made him a bed of straw and built him a fire before withdrawing to make a camp for themselves. Unfortunately, the grasses around him soon caught fire and though the fires were extinguished, the old man died half an hour later.

Iberville's hunters captured an old woman in the woods and heaped gifts upon her to take to her people. The first diplomatic contact with the native people had been accomplished, and the Indians told them of the great river to the west.

On February 27 Iberville set out "in wind and drizzle" with Bienville, M. Sauvolle and about 48 men to visit the Mississippi River. They spent the night near the south end of the later-named Bay of Saint Louis and the following day traversed the Breton Sound in fog and rain which continued through the following day. On March 2nd, running before a storm, they located and entered the mouth of the Mississippi and traveled up stream, making contact with various tribes until on March 16th they came upon a decorated pole which marked the boundary between the Houmas and the Bayagoulas tribes. They called the place Red Stick or "Baton Rouge". On the return trip, Iberville discovered the proof he sought in the form of a letter written by Henri de Tonti to La Salle fourteen years earlier. The letter had been left with the chief of the Mongoulachas who bartered it to Iberville for a few hatchets and knives.

Iberville shortly thereafter divided his party into two groups. Bienville returned by the mouth of the Mississippi while Iberville explored the area of Pass Manchac, lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain and returned to the open water by the Rigolets.

When Iberville departed from his ships on April 27th, he instructed them to return to France if he had not returned within one month. On March 30th he camped near the mouth of the Bay of Saint Louis where he built a large fire to signal his return.

The following morning he recognized Cat Island, and shortly thereafter reached his ships. About an hour later Bienville and his party arrived.

Construction of Fort Maurepas Begun

Construction was begun on Fort Maurepas on April 8, 1699, and the fort was completed by May 1st. Iberville sailed for France on May 3rd to report to his king, leaving 81 men at Fort Maurepas. He wrote in his journal, "I left M. de Sauvolle in command; de Bienville, King's Lieutenant; Levasseur, Major; de Bordenac, Chaplain; Care, Surgeon; two Captains, two Pilots, four sailors, eighteen military adventurers, thirteen Canadians, ten mechanics, six masons, thirty sub-officers and soldiers."

The Bay of Saint Louis Explored

August 25, 1699, Bienville explored the Bay of Saint Louis. Andre Penicaut, a ship's carpenter on the expedition, recorded in his journals, "We shortly afterwards found a beautiful bay, about one league in width, by four in circumference, which M. Bienville named the Bay of St. Louis, because it was on the feast day of St. Louis we arrived there. We hunted there three days and killed fifty deer."

The exploration proceeded westward through the Rigolets and as far as the present site of New Orleans. On the return trip he recorded, "Next day we camped at the entrance of the Bay of St. Louis, near a fountain of water that flows from the hills, which M. de Bienville named Belle Fontaine. We hunted several days around this bay and filled our boats with venison, buffalo and other game."

J.F.H. Claiborne wrote that Iberville arrived the second time from France with two frigates, the *Renommée* and the *Gironde*, on December 8, 1699, though McWilliams lists the date a month later. With him was M. de Surgere, bringing supplies and reinforcements, including sixty Canadians.

In December Bienville had a fort constructed on the bluff at the "Baye de Saint Louis" garrisoned with fifteen soldiers and five families under the command of a sergeant. Thus the colony at Bay Saint Louis became the third settlement on the Gulf of Mexico following Pensacola and Biloxi (Ocean Springs).

After exploring the Mississippi River again in search of a site for a permanent colony, Iberville hastily selected a site about 50 miles upstream from the river's mouth and construction was begun on a small fort called Fort Boulaye, or Fort Mississippi.

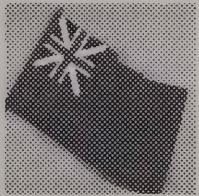
Iberville departed a second time for France on May 28th, 1700, this time leaving 120 men at Fort Maurepas, 140 total between Mobile and Fort Mississippi. When he returned to Biloxi Bay in December 1701, he brought instructions to move the colony to Fort Louis (Mobile Bay) because France had formed an alliance with Spain against England and the new location afforded joint protection against a British attack.

April 22, 1702 Iberville sailed back to France and never returned. He died on a return trip, aboard a French ship in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, on July 9, 1706.

Bienville was only 22 years of age when he became governor of the colony. His capital remained at Mobile until January, 1720, when it was moved back to Biloxi because the harbor at Dauphin Island had become too shallow. Construction of Fort Louis at Nouveau Biloxi was never completed, and in 1722 Bienville moved his residence, and with it, the capital, to New Orleans.

After New Orleans became the capital, its deep-water access for shipping rendered the colonies eastward to Mobile of little value to the French. There was little, save hides and pelts, of commercial value produced in the area and those were transported to New Orleans for shipping. Hard life and disease left the colony chronically under-populated, and agriculture was never developed. Though several valiant efforts had been made to bring women to the colonies, none were totally satisfactory. There were frequent marriages with Indians, and later, with Negroes. In 1727 the few troops remaining at Fort Louis in Biloxi were withdrawn and the area was left to fend for itself.

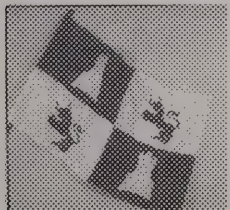
The lifestyle that developed became one of rural peace. During the rest of the 1700s there was little development of cultural, social, religious or political organizations. There were no schools, and although the population was exclusively French or Spanish and Catholic, no churches were built. Occasionally an itinerant priest traveled from Natchez performing marriage and burial rites, often after the fact. The people hunted or fished for food, dressed and groomed themselves in the fashion of the Indians, and built their homes of thatch and mud. The settlers were destined to remain much the same for nearly a century.



The British Red Ensign

1763-1780

England defeated France in the Seven Years War and all of Louisiana east of the Mississippi River, except the Ile d'Orleans, was awarded to England. Louisiana west of the Mississippi and the Ile d'Orleans went to Spain. The total white population of all of Louisiana was only about 3,000. Charles Sullivan in *The Mississippi Gulf Coast: Portrait of a People*, wrote "...the French failed in their attempt to colonize the Gulf Coast because they did not begin by cultivating the soil". In spite of grand intentions, the Gulf Coast became more isolated and, with the approaching revolution in 1775, the crown ordered the West Florida colonial administration to grant land to the Tories who were forced to flee from other areas of the country. France joined on the side of the colonists against England.



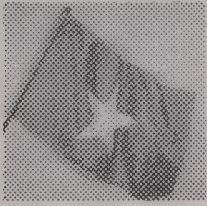
Lions and Castles of Spain

1780-1810

Spain declared war with Britain in June, 1779, and as a result of the ensuing treaty, British West Florida became Spanish West Florida.

Spain moved quickly to recognize the property rights of persons who occupied their holdings in West Florida and who would swear allegiance to the Spanish crown and the Catholic Church. New grants for land were issued freely. Although the Spanish did not send many settlers to the

territory, their liberal land policies made it attractive for the settlers already there to remain. In 1803, Napoleon Bonaparte sold the vast Louisiana Territory to the United States. Seven years later, the people living between the Perdido and Pearl rivers declared their independence from Spain.



Lone Star, Republic of West Florida **Sept. 23 - Dec. 7, 1810**

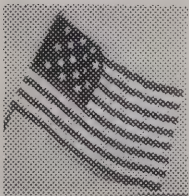
President Madison viewed the acquisition of Florida as inevitable and generally pursued a cautious policy. Americans on both sides of the border were not so complacent. During 1809-1810 events within West Florida as well as those within Spain (Napoleon had installed his brother, Joseph, on the Spanish throne) gave encouragement of direct intervention.

The Madison administration permitted Governor Claiborne of the Orleans territory to offer verbal encouragement to American settlers in the Baton Rouge area and, reacting to this maneuver, the Spanish commandant permitted the inhabitants some degree of self government in the form of a convention.

The Revolutionaries took over the convention and authorized seizure of the fort at Baton Rouge. With arms secured from Mississippians to the north, an insurgent force of 80 men overwhelmed the Spanish soldiers. On September 23, 1810, the convention drew up a Declaration of Independence for the free and independent Republic of West Florida.

The little country existed in theory, and to some degree in reality, for 74 days. Fulwar Skipwith was elected President and the Lone Star flag was designated the official flag of the country. (This flag predates the Texas Lone Star flag by 26 years).

President Madison issued a proclamation annexing the region west of the Perdido River to the United States, and instructed Governor Claiborne to incorporate the area into the Louisiana Territory.



Star Spangled Banner, United States **1811 - 1861**

The Congress of the United States created the Mississippi Territory on April 7, 1798, which included, in effect, all that land presently composing the states of Mississippi and Alabama.

Prior to the West Florida revolt, the population of the Gulf Coast was sparse. A report in 1804 showed about 48 families “eking out an existence”. Another account, presumably before the revolt, listed “not 20 families on the east bank of the Pearl, 10 or 15 French families at the Bay of St. Louis, 4 or 5 French free negroes and mulattos at Pass Christian, where the citizens of New Orleans were beginning to take refuge in the summer, about 12 families at Biloxi, half as many again on the Pascagoula, with more living up that river.”

The territory was opened to settlers and in a three year period between 1813 and 1816, 3300 families came down from Virginia, Tennessee, the Carolinas and Georgia, all of whom were Anglo- Saxon Protestants. They moved into the coastal areas, overwhelming the French and Spanish Catholic population until they reached the eastern shore of the Bay of Saint Louis where the migration ceased. The little town on the western shore of the bay, by that time called Shieldsboro, could be reached by carriage or wagon from the east only by traveling north from Pass Christian to Delisle, westward to the Kiln and finally southward to the town itself. The community remained fiercely loyal to its French and Spanish heritage throughout the 1800s.

It would be sixty years before the first rail would cross the Bay of Saint Louis in 1870, and 112 years before the first automobile bridge was opened in 1928. In a letter written by Governor Adelbert Ames as late as 1878, he stated that the language of the boarding houses and stores in Bay Saint Louis was exclusively French.

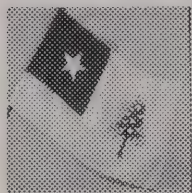
Battle of 1814

On the night of December 12th, 1814, more than 1000 British troops and 42 barges en route to New Orleans moved through the pass between Ship and Cat Islands and sailed westward along the Mississippi coast. They were closely watched by Lt. Thomas Ap Catesby Jones, commanding the seven American boats standing off Malheureux Island, as the British proceeded to anchor off Henderson’s Point that night. He dispatched the tender *Sea Horse* under the command of Sailing Master William Johnson into the Bay of Saint Louis to assist in the removal of the public stores lest they fall to the British. He then sent the ship *Alligator* to Chalmette to warn General Andrew Jackson of the British approach.

Word of the British fleet’s arrival spread throughout the county, and a large crowd gathered at sunrise on the 14th, along the bluff to watch the fleet passing. Three British boats were dispatched to capture the *Sea Horse* as it endeavored to load munitions below the bluff at present-day Ulman Avenue in Bay Saint Louis. Among the crowd was an elderly lady on crutches, a Miss Claiborne, who was visiting from Natchez. About 2 p.m., on observing the impending attack, she is quoted as saying “Will no one fire a shot in defense of our country?”, whereupon she is said to have taken Mayor Toulme’s cigar and lighted one of the cannon. The ball sailed past the *Sea Horse* and landed close to the approaching British. Assuming that he had fire cover from shore, Capt. Johnson seized the initiative and attacked the British fleet. He had a 6-pounder (cannon) on deck, and after half an hour of intense barrage the British retreated. Four more barges joined the first three, and the seven renewed the attack. Although Capt. Johnson’s defense was gallant, superior numbers forced him to blow up the little schooner rather than surrender her.

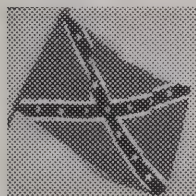
The rest of the American fleet in the Mississippi Sound, consisting of four barges, was anchored in the westerly current between Malheureux Island and Point Clear. On the morning of the 14th, the British rowed their boats into the current until they were about two miles away, where they anchored to take tea (breakfast) and rest before attacking. About 10:30 they closed on the little fleet under the command of Lt. Thomas Ap Catesby Jones. By 12:40 the battle was over. Six Americans were dead and 35 were wounded. The British suffered 17 dead and 77 wounded.

The greater significance of this battle and the greater loss to the British was the passage of time allowing General Andrew Jackson to gather more troops and to complete fortifications for the defense at Chalmette, where victory over the British was achieved on January 7th.



Magnolia State Flag 1861 - 1894

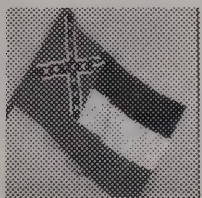
The first official state flag of Mississippi was adopted on January 26, 1861, several weeks after Mississippi became the second Southern state to leave the Union. In a show of independence, the banner was designed on white background with the traditional magnolia tree in the center and the familiar Lone Star in the upper left corner.



Confederate Battle Flag 1861 - 1865

Mississippi was the second state to sign an act of secession following South Carolina. The Civil War brought difficult and hard times to the coast although there were few actual battles fought here. Abraham Lincoln sent the iron-clad ship *Massachusetts* to the channel west of Ship Island thus effectively blocking the entire Mississippi Sound to traffic entering or leaving, there being no other deepwater channel into the sound. Flat bottom packet boats continued to sail between New Orleans and Mobile, but connections to the eastern seaboard and with Europe were completely severed.

The famous Battle of Pass Christian occurred when the *Massachusetts*, mistaking a fire on a pier for cannon fire, began shelling the town. The 3rd Mississippi Regiment which was stationed in Pass Christian had marched toward Biloxi expecting a Union landing there, leaving Pass Christian completely unprotected. A housewife dashed to her upper floor balcony and waved a white bed sheet, the flag of surrender, and the bombardment ceased. Union soldiers plundered the town before withdrawing, there being little of value, including food, for them to confiscate. This skirmish became known as Bedsheet Surrender.



Mississippi State Flag 1894 - Present

The flag with the magnolia was replaced with this official state flag in 1894, and it still flies. The canton corner of the red, white and blue flag is the Beauregard Battle Flag, in the square shape that it was originally intended. At the time of the flag change, the state's population was about 1.3 million, and the Coast's was about 44,000. (Sun Herald/Kat Bergeron)

RECONSTRUCTION TO THE PRESENT

At the end of the Civil War, real property in the state of Mississippi was said to be ninety percent destroyed. Rebuilding was a long and painful process. However, families made every effort to resume as normal a life style as possible. Carpetbaggers in governments for a period caused many properties to be forfeited, but gradually commerce and social activities resumed.

Northerners had learned much about the south during the war and began flocking to the warm climates, and resorts sprang up everywhere. Also, the rail between Mobile and New Orleans was completed in 1870 bringing New Orleans to within one hour's travel time. This allowed families to come to Bay Saint Louis in early Spring to avoid the sickness and mosquitoes prevalent in the city. Commuter trains ran regular schedules allowing men to board their "club car" in Bay Saint Louis at 8 a.m., have a leisurely breakfast en-route, and debark at the Canal Street Station one hour later. In the afternoon, they could board the train at 4 p.m. and be picked up at the station here after an hour-long cocktail period on the train.

At one time Bay Saint Louis had as many as 10 or 12 hotels. Some were, in fact, quite large like the Crescent, later called the Pickwick, the Bay Saint Louis, and the Clifton. After 1900 came the Liberty, the Klock, and the Weston which became the Reed (now the Reed Nursing Home). There were many boarding houses. Every Friday during the summer, hoards of New Orleanians came over to "The Bay" for swimming parties on the beach. Hotels had "bachelor quarters" for the single men, and every Saturday night there were dances at the various hotels which began after the heat of the day had begun to cool. These were relatively grand affairs with prominent bands, both local and from the city, and were always accompanied by veritable feasts of food and drink.

Sunday mornings found everyone at church, no matter how late they had been out the night before. Then, after a grand lunch at one of the commercial establishments, they gathered at the Woodman of the World Hall on Second Street next to the cemetery and were entertained with musical recitals, poetry readings or the presentation of contemporary plays. At 5 p.m. they boarded their train for the return trip to the city.

The Bay had deep artesian wells with water that had a strong sulphur content. Since it smelled so bad, it was assumed that it therefore had to be healthy, so a strong reputation as a health spa developed, contributing to the summer activities.

Until June 1930, Hancock County had the largest sawmill in the world. Timber was brought from miles away to the Weston, Poitevent, Eads mill at Logtown. Subsequently, nearly all the houses at The Bay were built of heart pine. They were thereby especially susceptible to fire. Being built on land divided into arpents, (the French equivalent of an acre) houses that caught fire were unlikely to be saved. In fact, several very large fires devastated The Bay, such as the ones in 1903, 1907 and 1927. About thirty homes and businesses were destroyed in 1907, including Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, the Bay Saint Louis Opera House, and the Planchet home and stores.

Beachfront homes nearly always had either a pier, with or without pierhouse, or a gazebo for the enjoyment of the evening breezes. After five in the afternoon, families gathered in these open buildings to socialize, both with their families and with their friends and neighbors. After about 1900, lemonade became the favored evening beverage and it was the most refreshing. This tradition continued to the middle of the century when, after World War II, families had been so scattered, serving in the military or working in defense related companies, that few large family groups remained to gather. Also, there was the phenomenon, air conditioning. Today few piers remain, and even fewer gazebos, and a great tradition has been lost.

The 20th century has brought many changes to The Bay. An automobile bridge was not built across the Bay of Saint Louis until 1928, and even then it burned with such regularity that it was hardly considered reliable. There are many stories of suitors bringing their girls from The Pass over to The Bay to one of the fine motion picture houses only to find when the reel was finished that the bridge had burned and the trip back to The Pass would take much too long to fit within the curfew set by the girls' parents.

Hurricanes, too, inflicted their damage to homes, piers and the beach. The most devastating hurricane ever was Hurricane Camille on August 17, 1969. There was not a single beach-front home that did not have severe damage, and dozens were completely washed away.

In 1963, NASA and the Stennis Space Center brought new prosperity to the Gulf Coast in the form of employment. The impact of the arrival of gambling casinos in 1994 caused the prices of homes and property to soar to undreamed-of heights. New construction is going up on nearly every vacant lot on the shore and inland. Unemployment is limited to those who choose to be unemployed, and there is an appearance of abundance everywhere.

With all the devastation of wind, water and fire, still there are within the city of Bay Saint Louis 576 homes that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The city participates every spring in the largest free pilgrimage of homes in America, and a Preservation Committee is being established to oversee the historic homes and to assure compatible new construction.

Following are some of these homes, primarily those along Beach Boulevard. Traditionally, houses on the Gulf Coast which have no "given name" are called by the name of the family which built the house or prominent occupants of it, followed by the name of the present owner.

To use this book as a guide, begin either at the Waveland/Bay Saint Louis city limits on South Beach Boulevard and proceed northward, or begin on North Beach Boulevard at Leonhard Avenue and proceed southward. Nearly all of these houses are presently listed on the National Register of Historic Places and all are in the Bay Saint Louis Historic District.

The house(s) at 986-988 South Beach Boulevard was about 20 years old when it was purchased by Alfred LeBlanc Sr., in 1880. The name San Felipe was given to the house by Mr. Henry Plauché Dart, Sr., who purchased it in 1898. At the time there were 30 acres of grounds with riding stables and orchards. Mr. Dart sold the property to the Jewish Orphanage Federation. Mrs. Charlotte Aiken later purchased it and removed the center section, creating two mirror image buildings. Each building displays intact Queen Anne style details such as multicolored window panes, unusually angled dormer and towers. The houses are separately owned at present.

The Ward Home at 982 South Beach Boulevard, was designed by Dr. Ward to resemble a "shotgun style" cottage that was torn down near Main Street. The house originally at this location was destroyed in Hurricane Camille in 1969.

About 1847 the John O'Brian home occupied the property at 978 South Beach Boulevard, and its gardens and grounds have been divided into several adjacent properties. It is described in *Along the Gulf* as "the last house on the way to Waveland".

About 1914 it became a retreat for St. Margaret's Daughters, an organization of New Orleans Catholic ladies who operated it for children and parishioners. They were unable to rebuild after Hurricane Camille so they subsequently sold the property.

The Breedens built the present building in 1981, retaining 17 acres of land which contain a beautiful brook along whose banks some distance back is a handsome shrine left from the St. Margaret's era.



San Felipe
986-988 South Beach Boulevard



Ward Home
982 South Beach Boulevard



Breedens Home
978 South Beach Boulevard



Ambrose Home "Merry Weather"
977 South Beach Boulevard



Onward Oaks
972 South Beach Boulevard



Joseph W. Gex Home
966 South Beach Boulevard

The Cape Cod style Ambrose Home at 977 South Beach Boulevard was built in 1985 from pre-cut Timberpeg design. It is located on the site of the main house of Saint Margaret's Daughters, which was destroyed in Camille. The house is very open, featuring post and beam construction with a rustic, white-washed interior. It has excellent views of the beach from three levels and its natural wood exterior blends with the colors of the beach and the woods behind it. There is a private, semi-tropical garden between the house and garage. An office above the garage serves as Dr. Ambrose's writing studio.

The large house at 972 South Beach Boulevard, Camp Onward, as it was called during the many years it was used as a summer camp for disadvantaged children from New Orleans, was purchased and renovated in 1995. A single dormer had survived the many hurricanes the house had withstood. It was reproduced to replace the five missing ones. The balustrades were recreated from computer enhanced photographs and the house was completely renovated, both interior and exterior. It has a formal parlor, dining room, library, large kitchen, five upstairs bedrooms, five and a half baths, and a huge sun porch across the back which overlooks an olympic-size swimming pool.

966 South Beach Boulevard was purchased by Dr. H. A. Eldridge in the 1940s but the house was destroyed in Hurricane Camille in 1969. The present Tudor home was built shortly after Camille by his grandson, Joseph W. Gex. This handsome house sits a distance back from the beach among trees and spacious grounds.

Before Hurricane Camille, 964 South Beach Boulevard was a large two-story Tudor structure that had belonged to Dr. Day of New Orleans. When Mrs. Omer DeBever purchased it in the 1930s the house consisted of a huge living room downstairs with two bedrooms and two baths upstairs. This indicates that the house was primarily used for parties, as was the fashion for New Orleanians during the early 1900s. Summer homes were frequently used for elaborate entertaining.

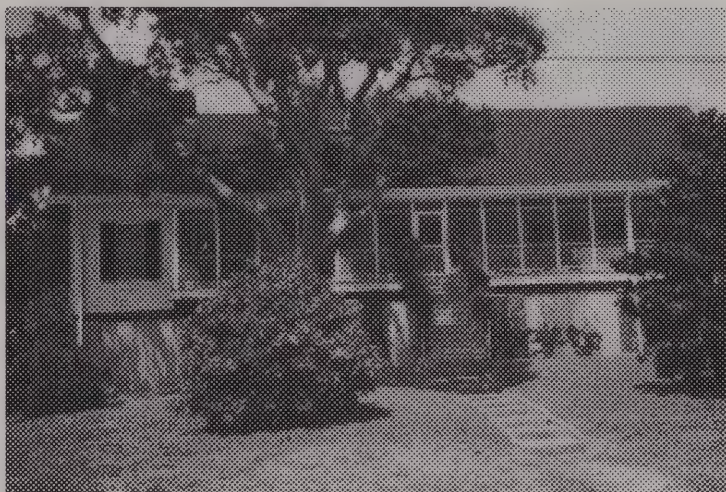
The Bourgeois home at 962 South Beach Boulevard was built following Hurricane Camille. It replaced the Charles Cox Home which was completely destroyed by the storm. The house is raised a full story, enhancing the fine view of the bay and presenting its long gallery to the gulf breezes. The present owners, Dr. and Mrs. John A. Bourgeois, purchased the property in 1994. They have been studying early Sanborn maps to locate the sites of the outbuildings that were on the property.

The Ogden home at 940 South Beach Boulevard was built shortly before Hurricane Camille struck the coast in 1969 and sustained severe damage but remained in restorable condition. The five houses south of this location were all completely destroyed and totally new structures have been built on their sites.

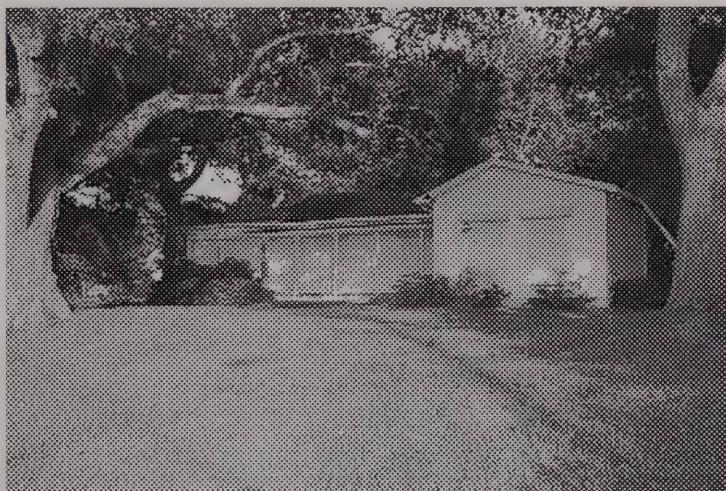
A photograph provided by Robert Scharff, son of Joe Scharff who lived there in 1968, shows a front elevation with three windows in the room projecting forward, a single entrance with three windows under the porch and a screen porch across the left end of the house.



DeBever Home
964 South Beach Boulevard



John A. Bourgeois Home, "Donnybrook"
962 South Beach Boulevard



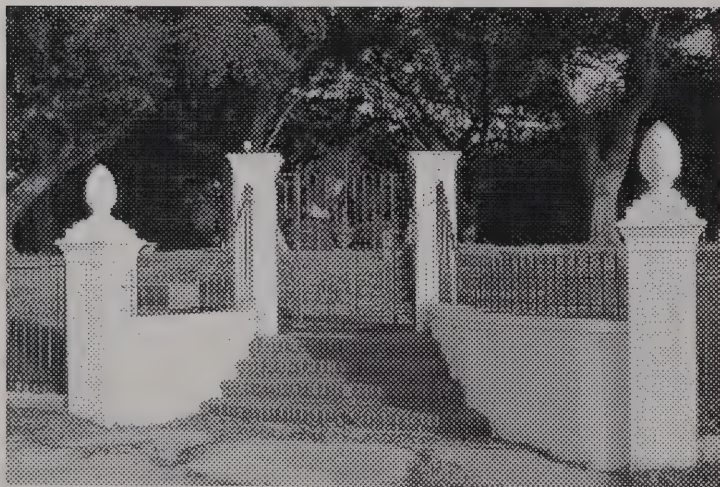
Ogden Home
940 South Beach Boulevard



William Adam Jr. Home "Twin Oaks"
948 South Beach Boulevard



Evans Summer Home
942 South Beach Boulevard



Zumurru/Brignac Home
920 South Beach Boulevard

The property at 948 South Beach Boulevard was the site of the Tricon mansion, a three-story building which was completely destroyed in Hurricane Camille. The lot remained vacant until 1997, when the Adam family built this large brick and clapboard home.

There are beautiful leaded crystal front doors and side panels which have easily accessible storm doors for protection against the strong coast winds. The gazebo is a wonderful nostalgic touch from the years when every house on the beach had either a gazebo or a pier to provide relief from the intense summer heat. The house was designed so that every room has a view of the waters of the Mississippi Sound.

The Evans House at 942 South Beach Boulevard was built in 1905 by A. K. Pye. There are two excellent photographs at the Historical Society of the house in the 1920s. There have been changes to the front porch but the house, including the dormers and balustraded wing, remains relatively unchanged. The denticulated frieze is still intact.

A large acreage remains with the property including a much earlier house behind the large stucco house. It was purchased in the 1930s by Hugh Evans of New Orleans and is still owned by his descendants.

The beautiful 1912 Brignac home which stood at 920 South Beach Boulevard burned on March 23, 1994. It was built in 1912 by S. Zumurru in the Prairie School architectural style. Later it belonged to the John Nelson Steward family before being purchased by E.M. Brignac.

The first photograph we have of the Wisner House was taken in 1925. The Wisners had just returned from the Orient and were entertaining about thirty guests in oriental costumes on the front lawn. The house was built about 1913 after a fire completely destroyed their previous home. Following Hurricane Camille, the house was moved from 912 to allow for the construction of Christ Episcopal Church. It is now the residence of Reverend Charles Johnson.

The beautiful Queen Anne home at 916 South Beach Boulevard was built circa 1850. Following the Civil War it was purchased by Dr. Frederic Loeber of New Orleans and has remained in his family ever since. Dr. Loeber was one of the founders of Touro Infirmary.

The property passed to his daughter, Dr. Edith Loeber Ballard and her husband, Marshall Ballard. Mr. Ballard was owner of the Item newspaper in New Orleans. Present owners are their daughter, Caroline Ballard Argus and her husband, William L. Argus.

Episcopal Church services were held at the Bay as early as 1838. The church built in 1860 was destroyed in the Civil war.

The next, Grace Church in Waveland, burned. A new church built in 1890 at Boardman Avenue was moved to N. Beach at Carroll Avenue in 1904. This building was destroyed in 1969 during Hurricane Camille and the present building on S. Beach was built and dedicated in 1971.

Virginia Hall, the rear portion of the building, is popularly used for wedding receptions, social gatherings and as a voting precinct.



Wisner/Johnson Home
918 South Beach Boulevard



Ballard/Argus Home
916 South Beach Boulevard



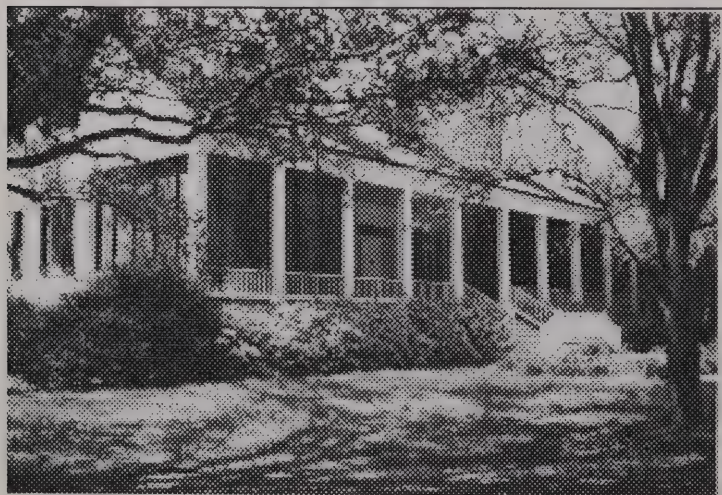
Christ Episcopal Church
912 South Beach Boulevard



Frey Compound
904 South Beach Boulevard



Plauché/Gray Home "Beachwood Hall"
806 South Beach Boulevard



Wagner Home "Tranquility"
804 South Beach Boulevard / 116 Ballentine

The Frey Compound, located at 900 - 908 South Beach Boulevard with several adjacent properties on Saint Charles Street, includes about six homes belonging to individual Frey family members. The Freys began making these purchases about 50 years ago. "Big House" at 904 South Beach Boulevard is Colonial Revival in style and was built in 1890. The Freys added it to their holdings in 1960 and it is the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Alden Baehr.

The Plauché/Gray Home, Beachwood Hall, was built circa 1840 in Greek Revival design with late 1850s Italianate ornamentation along the eaves. Dormers were added in 1940 when the upper floor was remodeled and a curved staircase was installed.

The house appears in *Along the Gulf*, published in 1894, as "Nellie's Villa," the summer residence of Lionel Adams of New Orleans. Subsequent owners were Hap Weston, Oliver Baldwin and Lionel Baxter.

The Wagner Home, "Tranquility", is located at 804 South Beach Boulevard. This beautiful home belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wagner who designed and built it circa 1974. The approach from the beachfront is through an arch of live oak trees to a point where the property widens, surrounding the house with spacious natural gardens which are accented with azaleas and hawthorns.

This is the main house site of the Gragnon property which, in the early 1800s, was known as "Driftwood" which included Bellevue at 802, "Laura Villa" at 804 and "Nellie's Villa" at 806. Ballentine Street was called Gragnon alley.

The Stokoe/Haas home at 712 South Beach Boulevard was built about 1890. It has three Palladian windows on the upper floor, one in each of the gable ends, and has a handsome polygonal bay on the front profile. In early photographs, the sycamore tree on the right has a sign reading "Sycamore Hill" though we have found no official records of this name.

During the first half of the 1900s, brackets were added between the columns creating an "arch" effect but they were removed by the 1930s.

The Hayden House at 710 South Beach Boulevard appears on the 1893 Sanborn map as a shotgun cottage. The first three rooms were probably slave quarters for the Old Customs House next door as is evidenced by square nails and wide floor boards. Renovations following Camille included widening to twice its width, and a second floor was added. Interior and exterior parts were gathered from New Orleans, Mobile and Natchez to retain its historic feeling. The dining room has an unusual and interesting parquet floor design.

The Akers home at 708 South Beach Boulevard, known as the "Spanish Custom House", was built in 1787 and is probably the oldest house in Bay Saint Louis. It is solid brick with a stucco finish. The bricks were baked on the site and are engraved with the 1787 date. The gallery originally ran along all four sides on both upper and lower levels. It has been enclosed in recent years along the north side on both levels to provide additional interior space. However, it remains today one of the most charming and attractive homes along the Gulf Coast.



Stokoe/Haas Home
712 South Beach Boulevard



Hayden Home
710 South Beach Boulevard



Akers Home "Old Spanish Customs House"
708 South Beach Boulevard



Glover/Davidson Home
700 South Beach Boulevard



Blaize Home
610 South Beach Boulevard



Spotorno Home
608 South Beach Boulevard

The Glover/Davidson house at 700 South Beach Boulevard was built in 1895 at 102 Citizen Street. After Hurricane Camille in 1969, it was moved forward and quarter-turned to replace the house lost in the storm. Its gate and walk remain today at the Citizen Street location.

After effecting a complete renovation of the property, the Davidsons purchased the lot on the south side where the Weston home stood and extended their lawn and view in that direction. The larger grounds and the beautiful live oak near the house add enormously to its intrigue.

The handsome Palladian window on the second floor remains the focal point of the façade.

The Blaize home at 610 South Beach Boulevard is the lone survivor of three nearly identical houses built by architect Charles Sanger about 1910. The other two were completely destroyed in Hurricane Camille and this one lost its front porch, door and windows. Miss Blaize had the front completely sealed except for the entrance to assure that would never happen again.

The Spotorno Home at 608 South Beach Boulevard was originally on the beach across from this property but was moved to the rear of the large brick L.W. Spotorno General Merchandise store. After 40 years of existence, Spotorno's was taken over by a nephew and became known as Olivari's. The famous Martin's Wharf, one of the largest and best known along the coast, was built on the old house site. Packet and passenger boats between New Orleans and Mobile made regular scheduled stops here.

The Yenni home and store was built in 1894, following a fire that burned Mr. Yenni's former building to the ground. It is a Victorian, L-shaped cottage with an undercut front gallery, and Queen Anne style decorative features. The large front section of the house was the store, and the family quarters were in the rear.

An alternative front entrance was added after a modern building was built in front of it to serve as a service station with gas pumps. This structure was later enclosed. The Spurl/Ames home, circa 1870, appears in a photograph of 1894. It was purchased by the Ames family in 1974 and suffered severe damage in a fire in the late 1970s. Mr. Ames is overseeing careful reconstruction of the house. Note the finials at the roof peaks, the paired columns and elaborate cut-out eave boards.

The house at 502 South Beach Boulevard is in the Greek Revival style. It is a one story 5x3-bay frame with high basement, hip roof, central entrance and undercut gallery. Two stairways lead to a central bay on the first floor. (Primary designation by National Register of Historic Places). The Languirand house is believed to have been built around 1860 by Edmond Nécaise who was married to Adele Guery. He later moved to Main St. to escape the threat of hurricanes. The house at various times has been called "Hilltop" and "Bird Cage Cottage". In the 1890's, "Bird Cage Cottage" was the summer home of New Orleanians Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Bajurin. Newspaper accounts mention many parties with guests from New Orleans and music provided by string bands playing until midnight.



Yenni Home and Store
Corner South Beach Boulevard and Washington Street



Spurl/Ames Home
504 South Beach Boulevard



Languirand Home "Hilltop"
502 South Beach Boulevard



Otis/Green Home
418 South Beach Boulevard



Sullivan Home
416 South Beach Boulevard



Swoop Manor House
414 South Beach Boulevard

The Otis/Green House at 418 South Beach Boulevard was built in Audubon Park in New Orleans as the model home exhibit for the Louisiana Exposition of 1884.

The house was well suited to the beachfront with its jerkinhead roof, large galleries and wide windows. It was brought over to this location by barge. It has been in the Otis and Green families ever since.

The history of the Sullivan Home at 416 South Beach is entwined with that of Swoop Manor next door at 414 South Beach Boulevard, and the families are related. It is thought to be contemporary with the south wing of Swoop Manor, 1838, and may well have been the main house on the property at that time. Prior to Hurricane Camille in 1969 the house had six posts with very effective late Victorian decorations. It was the last home of Elizabeth Sullivan, author of *Singing on the Seawall: Poems of the Gulf South*, *Louisiana Lullaby* and *The Scholar and the Sage* among other poetic works.

Swoop Manor was owned by F. Romogosa in 1853, but it is believed that the smaller separated section of the house was older and indications are that it may have been built about 1838. The main structure was built in 1853 and was sold to Thomas Hale in 1857 following the death of Mr. Romogosa's son due to yellow fever.

In 1880, Thomas Hale sold the property to Sebastian Swoop. The house still belongs to Mr. Swoop's great-grandchildren.

It was called a "manor house" because it was self-sufficient. It had its own tannery, grainery, boat docks, gardens, and stable.

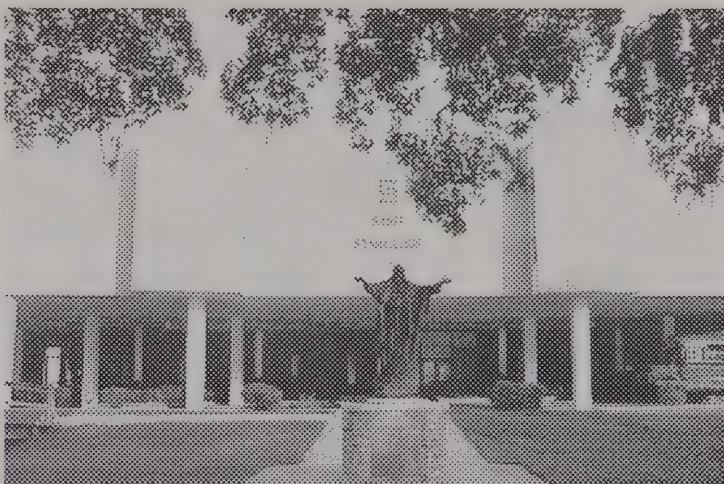
Saint Stanislaus College Preparatory was established in 1854 by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. It has built a reputation for excellence, both in academics and sports.

The beautiful thirty acre campus supports an impressive array of sports activities which have brought honor to the school. It has a present enrollment of nearly 600 students. Of these, about 285 are boarded at the school. There are about 40 international students in the school today.

Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church was founded on August 8, 1847 when Father Buteaux arrived in Bay Saint Louis. The new church was completed and blessed on August 19, 1849, and services have been held here ever since. The beautiful Gothic style building burned on November 16, 1907 and the present building was completed the following year. It has exquisite stained glass windows made in Munich, Germany. Each window depicts an event in the lives of Jesus, Mary and Joseph from the Annunciation to the Resurrection of Christ.

Merchants Bank and Trust Company opened its doors in 1903 in the Sea Coast Echo Building at 200 North Beach Boulevard. Construction of the building located at 205 South Beach Boulevard was begun immediately and six months after opening, it survived the fire of 1907 because of its brick construction and a prevailing wind from the north. About forty buildings burned that day.

After ninety four years of service, it was sold to Whitney Bank of New Orleans in 1997 and this office was closed. Future occupants of the building have not been announced.



Saint Stanislaus College
304 South Beach Boulevard



Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church was one of the few buildings that was relatively undamaged by Hurricane Camille. The Church was founded in 1847.

Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church
228 South Beach Boulevard

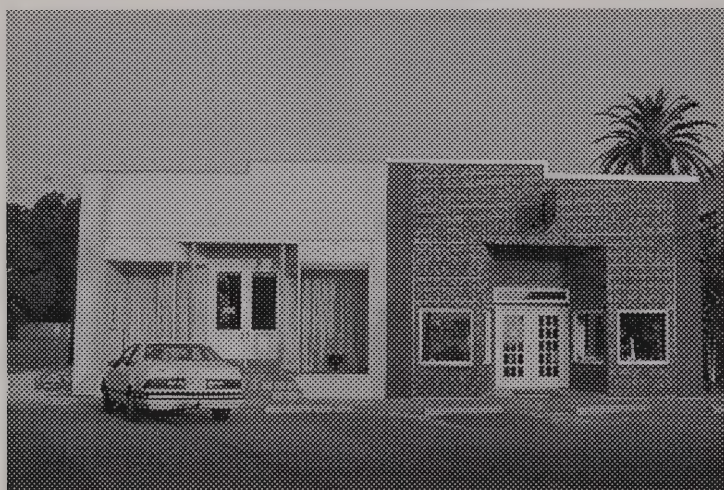


Merchants Bank Building
205 South Beach Boulevard



Firedog Saloon

120 South Beach Boulevard



The Dunbar Building

108 & 110 South Beach Boulevard



Hancock Bank

100 South Beach Boulevard

The railroad was completed in 1870 and the Pickwick Hotel was built next to the railroad track and occupied lots on both sides of Court Street, with Court Street being a carriage drive through the center of the hotel. The hotel burned in 1927.

Arcineaux Service Station was built shortly thereafter at 200 South Beach Boulevard between the tracks and Court street. In recent years it has been used as an antique store and a restaurant, and is now the popular Blue Parrot Restaurant.

120 South Beach Boulevard was built about 1930 and was the Gulf Chevrolet Company, Casanova's Auto Supplies, a Texaco service station and the Fireplace Lounge. The present occupant, the Fire Dog Saloon, is popular with the younger set.

108 and 110 South Beach Boulevard occupy the site of the home of Thomas Shields. Bay Saint Louis was called Shieldsboro in his honor from 1803 until it was officially changed to Bay Saint Louis in 1875.

The present building was built for the G. W. Dunbar Oyster Factory. Joseph O. Mauffray opened his store in 1905 which, through his children, continued in business until his son, Alden Mauffray, died in 1995.

An 1894 photograph of the intersection of Main Street and Beach Boulevard shows that Levy's Department Store occupied the site on the southwest corner. However, the 1898 Sanborn map shows the lot to be vacant implying that Levy's building had been demolished by that time.

This building was completed and occupied in September 1900 and housed the bank, post office and customs office.

The “Pot of Gold” mural at One Magnolia Place, 101 Main Street, is based on a work by Bay Saint Louis folk artist Alice Moseley. It is named “Pot Of Gold At The End Of The Rainbow Is Bay St. Louis,” and was created under the guidance of Bay High art teacher Ken Matthew, using students who worked weekends on the painting. They completed the work in November 1997.

Across the street on the side of the Hancock Insurance Agency building is another mural, “Promenade,” which is 85 feet long and 18 feet high. It was painted by Bay artist John McDonald and depicts a pavilion where a contemporary audience on the top level looks down on a sweeping panorama of centuries of history.

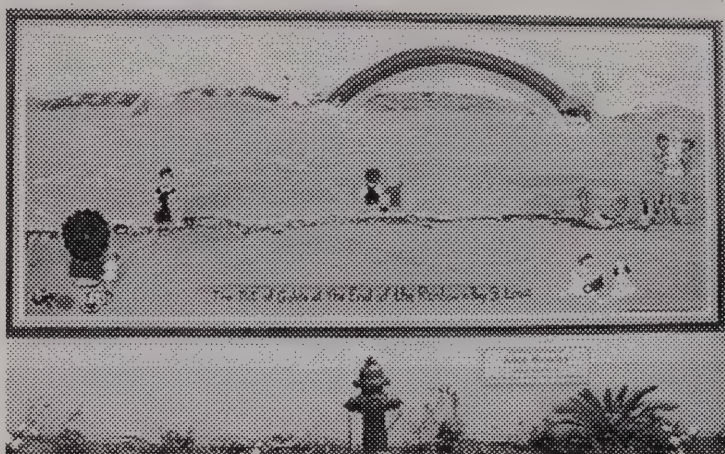
These two murals were created for the Renaissance Project, a program designed to resurrect an awareness of the community through art.

McDonald created an eerie perspective by painting the bricks in his design over the actual bricks of the building, following their pattern wherever possible.

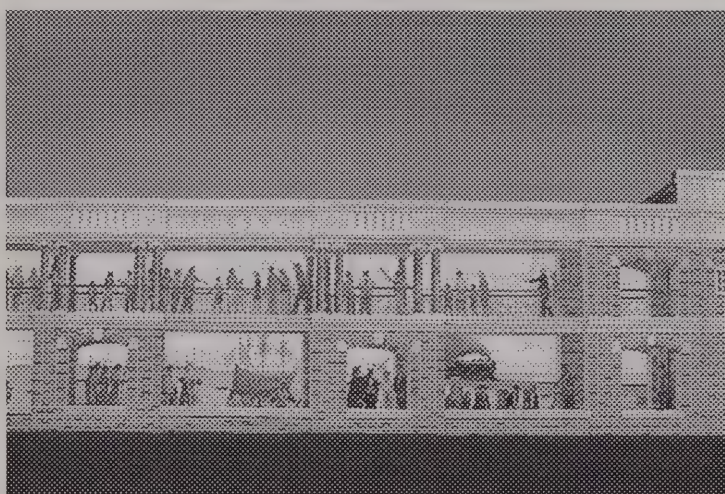
The Baptist Church at 141 Main Street traces its roots to 1846, though the First Baptist Church was officially organized in 1896. The previous church building was located at Easterbrook and Toulme Streets.

In 1947 a surplus chapel at Camp Van Dorn in Centerville, Mississippi was purchased from the U.S. Army for \$1250.00 and reassembled on the Main Street site. Using volunteer and professional help, reconstruction and brickwork took six months.

The Youth Center Building was added in 1959 and the Education Building in 1969.



“Pot of Gold”
Main Street at Beach Boulevard



“Promenade”
Hancock Insurance Agency, Main Street



First Baptist Church
141 Main Street

The First Baptist Church building was constructed in 1947 from a U.S. Army surplus chapel that was disassembled at Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi. The Education Building to the left rear of the sanctuary was constructed in 1969. A severe fire damaged the sanctuary in 1977, but it was quickly rebuilt.



HANCOCK COUNTY COURT HOUSE
1873 - 1911



HANCOCK COUNTY COURT HOUSE
1911 - Present

Hancock County Court House

HANCOCK COUNTY, named for John Hancock, signer of the Declaration of Independence, was established in 1812 as part of the Mississippi Territory. After Mississippi became a state in December 1817, the first courthouse was built at Center, renamed Caesar, because there was another Center in Mississippi.

The county seat was moved to Gainesville in 1837 where it remained until the courthouse burned in 1853. There followed a period of great controversy between Gainesville and Bay Saint Louis as to where the new courthouse would be built. The matter was not settled until after the Civil War when a vote was taken and Bay Saint Louis was the victor. Court was held in an existing building (probably located at 210 Main Street, which was once called Landmark Square) in Bay Saint Louis. By 1873 it became necessary to build the larger building shown above. It was a wooden structure, surrounded by a picket fence and stood on the site of present building.

In 1910, this building also was deemed inadequate for the needs of the rapidly growing county; and a New Orleans architectural firm, Keenan & Weills, contracted to design the new courthouse "not to exceed 25,000 dollars". Jett Bros. Contracting Co. of Alabama won the construction contract with a bid of \$24,989, which included granite steps at \$650.

Napoleon Caron was hired to move the old courthouse 76 feet to the east for which he was to be paid \$650 provided the building was reestablished in such condition that all windows and doors could be opened and the building was fully functional.

The new courthouse was formally accepted by the board on September 20, 1911. Napoleon Caron bought the old building for \$150 and demolished it.

The Main Street Methodist Church at Main and Second Streets was built in 1895. However, Methodist services were conducted on this site in 1852.

John B. Toulme donated the first church and grounds and his son, John V. Toulme, donated the adjoining land for a parsonage in 1892. Both father and son were mayors of the city at various times: 1840 and 1880.

The education/daycare center was built in 1973 and the multipurpose / special services building in 1993. New offices, visible to the right, were added in 1998.

The Richard Barthé mural on the Second Street side of the Court House Annex which faces Main Street was painted by Joseph Pearson.

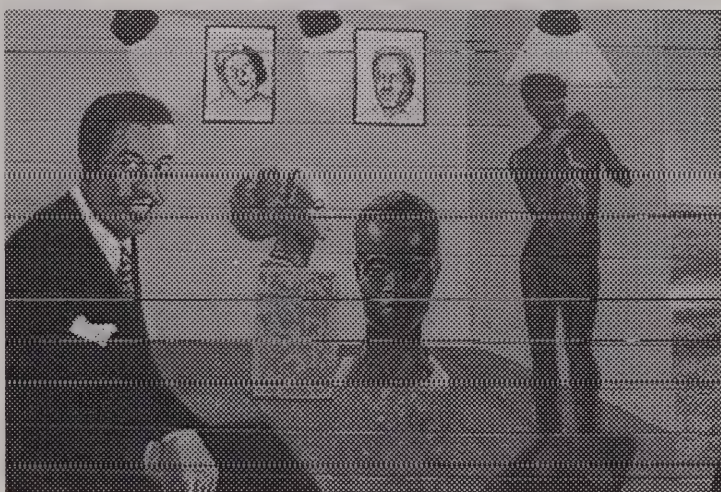
Mr. Barthé was taken out of school in the seventh grade at St. Rose to help support his family, went on to receive a doctorate from St. Francis College in 1947. His bronze works are displayed at museums around the world, including the Metropolitan and the Whitney in New York City.

The Evergreen Antiques building at 201 Main Street has been used as a store for more than one hundred and fifty years. The first photograph we have of it was taken on January 6, 1866. In another photograph taken some years later, the store was called the "Red Hot" and was painted in the same shade of red that it is today. Mr. W. A. McDonald was standing in front of the entrance holding a chalk sign commenting on the August-type weather they were experiencing.

Harold Carver owned and operated his store, "Jerome's," there for years before restoring and leasing the building to Evergreen Antiques.



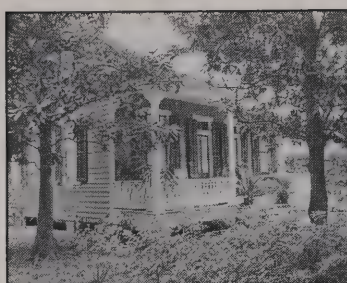
Main Street Methodist Church
Main and Second Streets



Detail from Barthé Mural
Main and Second Streets



Evergreen Antiques
201 Main Street



Wagner Office 342 Main



Mestayer Home 338 Main



Moak Home 337 Main



Duplissis/Angelle 341 Main



Saint Rose de Lima Church
301 Necaise Street

St. Rose de Lima (Peru) is dedicated to the first saint of the Americas. Father Henry LeDuc of Our Lady of the Gulf Church began a school for black children in 1868. Direction of the school was assumed, first by the Divine Word Missionaries in the 1920s, and then by the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Spirit.

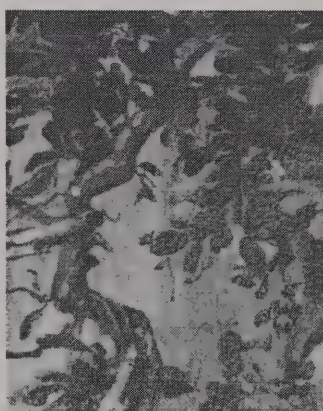
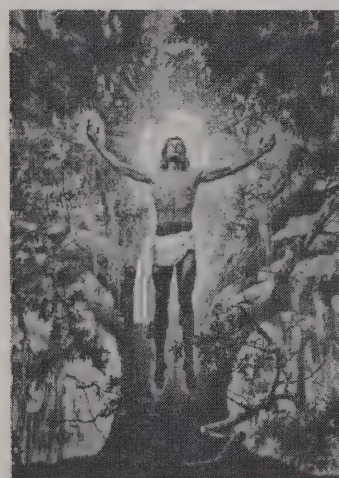
The four Creole cottages in the three hundred block of Main Street were built by members of the Necaise family about 1840 and are of remarkably similar design. Originally, 338, 341 and 342 were each two-room houses with a cabinet behind them. These small buildings to the rear of the main houses were either torn down or moved forward and joined to the houses. All four houses have had various additions but the original sections remain intact.

337 appears to have been built slightly later since it has somewhat taller windows and has transoms over the doors.

Saint Rose de Lima Catholic Church at 301 South Necaise street, was built in 1926 as an outgrowth of the school of that name for black children. The congregation had outgrown the chapel. An impressive mural, "Christus Sunsum," on the rear and side walls of the sanctuary was painted by Auseklis Ozols and Kat Fitzpatrick. It is the highlight of this delightful church building. The altar and the water and wine tables are fashioned from driftwood trees that washed ashore from the bay.

The mural depicts an ancient live oak, draped in Spanish moss, which has twisted and gnarled branches that reach out to encircle and embrace worshipers. Suspended in the middle of the tree is the seven foot figure of a black Christ with arms outstretched, looking upward to Heaven..

Families from the congregation have their names written in the branches and several faces appear when sections of the painting are studied.



One of the faces woven into the painting's background

"Christus Sunsum"
(Sunsum is an African word meaning "spirit")

As described earlier, the depot building was built late in 1928 following the destruction of the previous building by fire. It was the hub of the business community which developed across in front of it.

In 1965 "This Property is Condemned" was filmed using the depot, the Old Town section and the Scafide Home and Store as its location. The movie starred Natalie Wood, Robert Redford, Charles Bronson and Alan Baxter. It was directed by Sydney Pollock. The story was based on a Tennessee Williams one-act play by the same name.

The rusticated block building depicted in the movie as Natalie Wood's home was actually the Henri Scafide home and store. Mr. Scafide was a well-known Tulane football player known as "Baby Grand," and he personally cast all the stones and built the building in 1929. He also served as Mayor of Bay Saint Louis.

The Old Town section developed following the arrival of the trains in 1870 and was a vital commercial section of the city from that time until well into the new century. Among other things it included hotels, churches, groceries, barber shops, bars, restaurants, drug stores, and the ice and bottling plant.

The Benigno Grocery & Deli at 128 Blaize Avenue and Benigno Bar at 130 Blaize Avenue, are owned by families still in business in the area more than one hundred and twenty years later.

With the restoration of the depot, fashionable new businesses have developed such as the Carpet Creations at 134 Blaize Avenue and Bay City Grill at 136 Blaize Avenue.



L&N Depot
Railroad Avenue



Henri Scafide Home and Store
Blaize Avenue



Old Town Bay Saint Louis
Blaize Avenue



Alice Moseley Home
214 Bookter Street



Old City Hall and Shoo-fly
302 South Second Street



Fahey/Bouis Home
129 Railroad Avenue

The fanciful home and studio of folk artist, Alice Moseley is located at 214 Bookter Street across a park from the depot. Mrs. Moseley reports that she had received four invitations to art shows the summer of 1988 and being unable to decide which to choose, she let a friend draw names: it was the Bay Saint Louis Beachfront Festival. After a few hours here, she returned home to get her cat, came back to the Bay and sent for her things. Both the 88 year old lady and her paintings are endearing. Her shop is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Bay Saint Louis City Hall at 302 South Second Street was built in 1905. It is a good example of Classic Revival architecture with Roman and Greek influences.

It contained a board room and offices on the upper floor and a city jail on the ground floor. The jail was used until the 1937 construction of the Hancock County jail adjoining the courthouse.

Surrounding the massive live oak next to City Hall is what is locally known as a "Shoo-fly". Designed by architect Kevin Scott Fitzpatrick, the shoo-fly was built by city staff in 1991. It is now the site of inauguration of city officials, weddings, storytelling and is a popular subject for local artists.

The Fahey/Bouis home at 129 Railroad Avenue was built by John Bartholomew Fahey who came to Bay Saint Louis to build the railroad bridge in 1870. There is a photograph of it in *Along the Gulf* which was published in 1894. His son, Bishop Leo Fahey was the first Mississippian to be made a Catholic Bishop.



THE KATE LOBRANO HOUSE

Home of THE HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Katherine Maynard Lobrano home (circa 1896) at 108 Cue Street, Bay Saint Louis, was donated to the Hancock County Historical Society in 1988 by her grandchildren, the Borne, Warriner and Lobrano families. Mrs. Lobrano died in 1921 and is buried only a few hundred feet away in the Cedar Rest Cemetery.

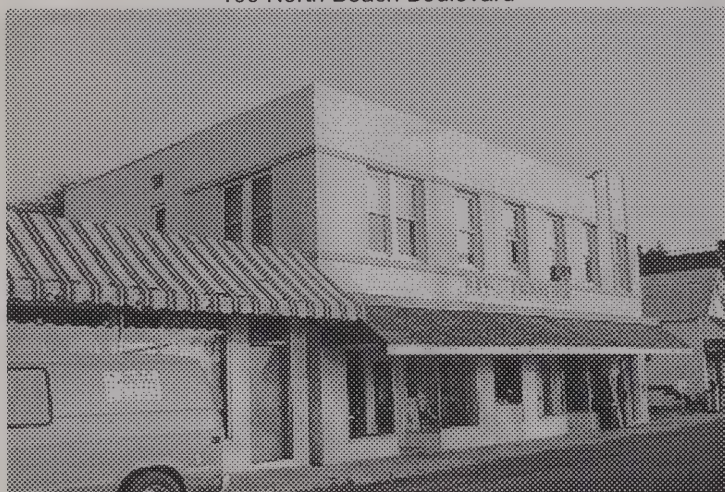
The first meeting of the Hancock County Historical Society was held at the guest house of Mr. and Mrs. William P. Hilliker at 1501 Dunbar Avenue on August 14, 1974. Officers elected were Norton Haas, President; Louis Fernandez, Jr., and Ames Kergosien, Vice Presidents; Sylvia McComiskey, Secretary; Peggy Gibbens, Treasurer; Prim Hilliker, Membership; and Evelyn Griffith, Historian. There were 31 Charter Members.

Today, the society boasts a membership of more than 600, publishes a monthly newsletter and maintains a website consisting of more than 1400 pages. Computers are provided for visitors to research its resources.

The Kate Lobrano house has been expanded to accommodate the growing needs of the society and to house its collections. On display are more than 150 photographs of early homes from Bay Saint Louis, Waveland, Pearlington, Logtown, Kiln and rural areas, plus over 1,000 more arranged by address in albums in the vault. There is a fine collection of early Indian artifacts. The parlor and dining room are furnished in period pieces from the turn of the century when the house was built. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Executive Director of the house is Mrs. Karen Flores.



Magnolia Place
100 North Beach Boulevard



Ramsey Building/Bay Emporium
104 North Beach Boulevard



Trapani's Eatery
116 North Beach Boulevard

A photograph in *Bay St. Louis, Mississippi Celebrating 100 Years of Incorporation* shows this intersection with a row of trees running down the center of Front Street with the Bourgeois Cottage (store) on this location. It burned in 1927 and there have been many businesses there since: Taconi barn, Lee's Service Station, Gilmore service station, the Police Station, the Dollar Store, and is now known as Magnolia Place.

The Emporium, gifts and antiques, is located in the old Ramsey Department Store building at 104 North Beach Boulevard. The complex was built in 1940 by Dr. D.L. Ramsey and housed his dental office, the Ramsey Gift Shop and the Bay Café. The gift shop was eventually expanded to occupy the entire ground floor. Previously the handsome two story de Montluzin home stood on this site until 1899 when L.A. de Montluzin built a new home a few doors north at 208 North Beach. The old home became the Liberty Hotel and burned on September 4, 1927, in a conflagration that consumed most of the block and several buildings on Main Street.

116 North Beach Boulevard was the site of the Muller cottage until it was burned in the great fire of Sept 4, 1927. Since that time it has been an unnamed pool hall, the Cassidy and Roland Drug Store, Gleims Sunshine Ice Cream Parlor, Monteleone Grocery, Mary's Eatery and, of course, today it is Trapani's Eatery, which enjoys great popularity with both locals and visitors alike.

The Trapani family operated Trapani's Knock Knock Bar and Restaurant across the street until 1969.

The A&G Theater, 120 North Beach Boulevard, opened its doors in April 1927. It had a seating capacity of 1,000 people and cost over \$60,000 to build. Miss Geraldine Ames and Mrs. Philomene Gaspard (hence the name A&G Theater) had the new fireproof structure built on the site of their home. This location was directly across the street from their earlier theater which was built in 1915. It had replaced an even earlier theater built in 1905. The first theater was an open-air platform with bleachers along the sides. It was called an "air dome", and admission was five cents.

The *Sea Coast Echo* building was built to house the newspaper of that name on the ground floor and on the second floor were apartments. In 1907 after its facility burned, the Cumberland Telephone Company occupied the second floor for several years. A photograph in the *Echo* in 1903 shows their "new building". The building has been stuccoed and balconies added, but otherwise it remains relatively unchanged. The owner at the time of construction was Charles G. Moreau who was also owner and editor of the *Echo*.

The de Montluzin Home at 208 North Beach Boulevard was built in 1899-1800. A post card shows no discernible differences except the area that is now de Montluzin Avenue was the family tennis court.

The house withstood the hurricanes of 1915 and 1947 and sustained only roof damage from Hurricane Camille in 1969.

The last family owner was René de Montluzin, Jr., who sold the property several years later. It has found a new life as the bed-and-breakfast, Bay Town Inn.



A&G Theater
120 North Beach Boulevard



The Echo Building
200 North Beach Boulevard



de Montluzin Home/Bay Town Inn
208 North Beach Boulevard



Ames/Dunn House
212 North Beach Boulevard



Wyly House
216 North Beach Boulevard



Toulme/Kane House
218 North Beach Boulevard

It is believed that within a few hundred feet of this house is the site of the fort built by Bienville in December 1699, making Bay Saint Louis third oldest city on the Gulf of Mexico. The site has not been proven by excavation.

212 North Beach Boulevard was designed by architect Vinson Smith for the owners of the A & G Theater, Mrs. Philo Gaspard and her niece, Miss Geraldine Ames. It was built in 1945 in Spanish Colonial Revival style. The two story 4x6 bay irregular plan house has parapeted walls, a tile shed-roofed porch supported by spiral columns. The porch has arched openings. A second two story tower porch has been added on the right side which gives a private beach view to the large bedrooms both upstairs and downstairs.

216 North Beach Boulevard was the beautiful home of Mrs. G.H.Boyle, until it burned about 1901. Excellent photographs of this house were downloaded from the Library of Congress on the internet. Mrs. Boyle built the Tulane Hotel after the fire and managed it until it burned in the 1930s. It had 27 rooms and accommodated up to 100 guests. The Wyly Home resembles its predecessor, the Tulane, although the former was constructed of lap-board siding.

The Toulme/Kane House at 218 North Beach Boulevard has been home to several very prominent Bay Saint Louis families such as Toulme, Miltenburger, Horton, Rauxet and Kane. The house, though much older, had major renovations about 1925, but retains its undercut gallery and central chimney. The shed dormer allows for multiple views of the bay from the upper floor.

The Phillips Home at 222 North Beach Boulevard was built prior to 1893. In 1915 a photograph of the house appeared in the *Official City and School Directory* when it was the home of T. L. Trawick, principal of the public school. Interestingly, the brick columns extended through the roof of the porch and were topped with large cast cement spheres. The upper floor had two gabled and polygonal dormers which have been replaced with the present shed roof.

Dickinson Home at 224 North Beach Boulevard has been variously known as the Carroll Plantation, Bay Villa, the Lorch Home and the Gex Home. Mrs. Dickinson was a Gex before her marriage. The date of construction is about 1840, and it was the main house of the Carroll cotton plantation. Large sections of the land were sold off to build the Carroll Estates subdivision.

There is an exceptional oak tree in the front yard with limbs reaching down to the ground. The iron fence is one of the few of its style surviving from the 19th century. An early photograph of this house shows a single dormer that was gabled and polygonal.

226 North Beach Boulevard was built on the site of Christ Episcopal Church which was destroyed in Camille. The church had been moved to this location in 1905 from Cedar Point.

This Acadian Cottage has a tall sloping roof and handsome front door of leaded glass made in England. It was built in 1975 by the noted artist, Pati Bannister, and her husband, Glynn Bannister, and was sold to Mr. and Mrs. McCandles about 1989. In the fashion of Coast homes, the hallway runs from front to back, and the archway separating the living and dining rooms is of typical Victorian style.



Trawick/Phillips Home
222 North Beach Boulevard



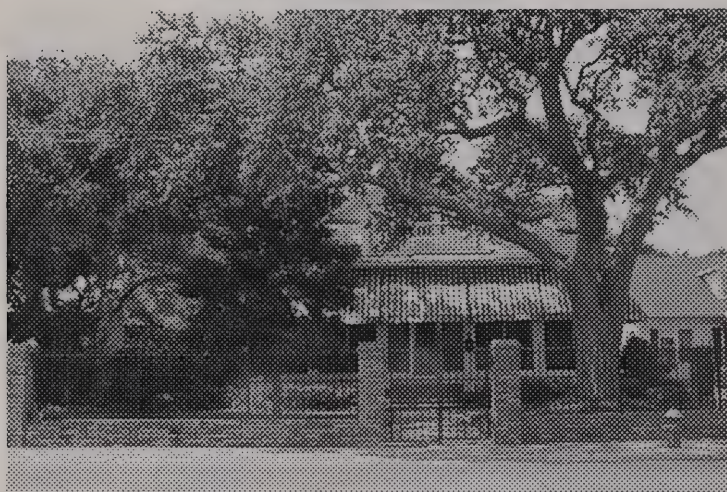
Carroll/Gex/Dickinson House
224 North Beach Boulevard



Bannister/McCandles House
226 North Beach Boulevard



McDonald/Church-Pogue Home
406 North Beach Boulevard



Seal Home
408 North Beach Boulevard



Powers/Pelleteri Home
410 North Beach Boulevard

406 North Beach Boulevard has sections which are very old and have undergone several alterations. It was part of the Necaie land grant after the territorial designation of 1813. It was sold several times during the 1800s and was renovated during the ownership of Uriah J. Virgin after 1900. In 1925 it became the home of the C. C. McDonald family until it was sold to Carter Church and Yancy Pogue in 1994. It was again renovated and was renamed "Le Marin" for the ship which brought the colonists to the Gulf Coast in 1699.

The Marshall/Seal house at 408 North Beach Boulevard was the home of Charles Marshall, who was Superintendent of the New Orleans and Mobile Railroad.. The Hancock County Historical Society has a collection of Mr. Marshall's letters (1848 to 1928). A photo of the house appears in a 1903 *Sea Coast Echo*.

The house has since been the home of Leo Seal, Sr. and Leo Seal, Jr. Following Camille in 1969 the second floor was expanded, and the second floor balcony added for viewing the Bay and Mississippi Sound.

The Powers/Pelleteri home was built about 1890. It is located at 410 North Beach Boulevard and was the home of S.A. Powers who owned the Powers Drug Store on the beachfront during the first quarter of the 1900s.

An early photograph of the house shows a seven-post porch which wrapped around the right side of the house, and the dormer gable was polygonal with five windows.

The porch was replaced with a smaller entrance and the dormer was altered to its present design before Camille in 1969.

Ada Villa, the charming raised house at 502 North Beach Boulevard is a rich reflection of Queen Anne style architecture. It has one polygonal dormer between two dormer roofed ones, bracketed porch posts, cutout barge boards and shingle enrichment and patterned clap-boarding. It was designed by Charles Sanger and built for L. Telhard in 1889. Shortly thereafter it was purchased by W. A. McDonald. Present owners are Otis and Mary McDonald Winnard. Mrs. Winnard was a McDonald. The house was likely painted tan, mustard and brown, a color combination that was popular at the time.

Stephen and Sara Benvenuti's home at 506 North Beach Boulevard is a story-and-a-half gable-on-hip roof dwelling with a balustraded balcony. The Benvenuttis purchased it in 1986. It was called the I. C. Ignicious Home and a photograph from the period shows that the second floor windows and balcony are a later addition. The front gallery is supported on turned posts with decorative cut-out work and well proportioned balustrades.

The Gex/Mauffray/Thompson House at 600 North Beach Boulevard was built in what is sometimes called "Depression Style" architecture, though it is more properly known as "French Provincial Revival", by Walter Gex, Sr. in 1933. Alden and Florence Mauffray owned and occupied the house from 1954 until 1996.

Present owner, Gretchen Thompson, has completed a comprehensive and sensitive renovation retaining the original ambiance of both the interior and exterior of the house. It has an Art Deco bath upstairs, complete with original black mirror decorations.



McDonald/Winnard Home, "Ada Villa"
502 North Beach Boulevard



Stephen Benvenuti Home
506 North Beach Boulevard



Mauffray/Thompson Home
600 North Beach Boulevard



Glindmeyer House
604 North Beach Boulevard



Leonhard/Battalora House
606 North Beach Boulevard



Worsley/Whitfield Home
610 North Beach Boulevard

The Evans/Glindmeyer house at 604 North Beach Boulevard was the home of Dr. J. A. Evans. In an early photograph the house was painted brown and the front porch roof was supported on paired columns set on brick pillars. Presently the porch has been enclosed with large glass windows accented with wood columns and balustrades. The upstairs windows were in sets of three in each of the two locations. An automobile under the porte-cochere appears to be an early 1920s model and the house probably dates from about that period. .

The Battalora home at 606 North Beach Boulevard has a hip roof with gabled dormer and a projecting gabled porch which is stuccoed and has curved openings. When the house was built circa 1899 it was a shotgun cottage but was elevated and enlarged by Ernest Leonhard in 1928. At that time the porches and second floor were added.

The property was purchased in 1950 by Dr. George Battalora, Sr. of New Orleans. It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Battalora.

The Whitfield Home at 610 North Beach Boulevard was built by Charles A. Worsley about 1903. After Mr. Worsley's death, Mrs. Worsley's sisters, Miss Zodie and Miss Mina Hunter, came to live with her.

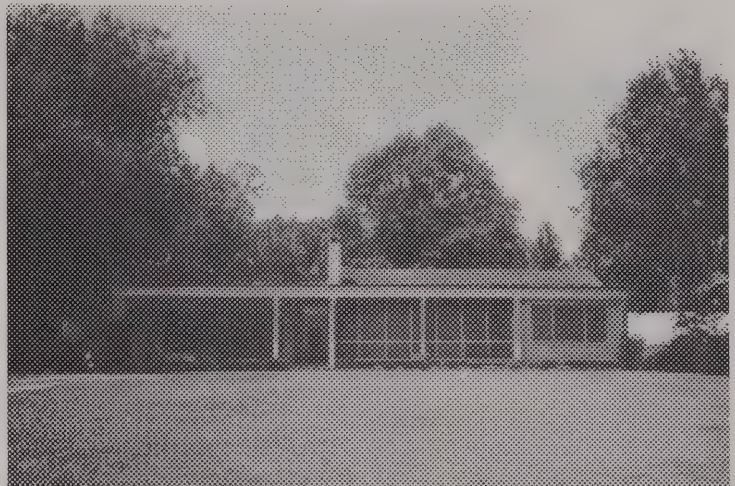
The home was sold to Dr. and Mrs. James A. Evans in the 1930s where they lived until they purchased the larger house next door. The house was then sold to Mrs. M. W. Briggs, who demolished a small house at 608, then sold 610 to Mr. Sam Whitfield, whose family still resides there.

The Santa Cruz home at 612 North Beach Boulevard was built about 1910 in Colonial Revival style. It has a three-bay dormer with hip roof on the front elevation and single-window, gable dormers on the side elevations. The original broad, undercut gallery remains but has been enclosed with brick veneer and glass. With the advent of air conditioning, glassed porches and galleries have replaced the traditional gazebo on the lawn or pierhouse over the water as a place to spend the hot afternoons.



Santa Cruz Home
612 North Beach Boulevard

The Ramsey Home at 614 North Beach Boulevard was built shortly after World War II and replaced a one-story clapboard house. It is a modern brick house with gable roof with a three-bay front façade. One bay has been enclosed.



Ramsey Home
614 North Beach Boulevard

Immediately behind the house and visible through the carport is a large grassy Indian burial mound. Due to Dr. Ramsey's vigilance, local youth have not plundered the site during the last half century, but it is not known which items were removed prior to that time.

The Monet/Breath Home was built in 1818 by Judge P.C. Monet, who was mayor of Shieldsboro (later Bay Saint Louis) in 1858.

It is the third oldest house in Bay Saint Louis. The north wing (the polygonal bay on the right) was added to the structure in 1880 and the cupola and front gable were added after 1903. Breath Lane extends behind the house and allows access to several smaller residences on the property.



Monet/Breath Home
616 North Beach Boulevard

This Queen Anne house has been home to four generations of the Breath family.



Boh/Brennan Home
618 North Beach Boulevard



Robinson/Tanner Home
632 North Beach Boulevard



Lamb Home
634 North Beach Boulevard

This Queen Anne style frame dwelling at 618 North Beach Boulevard was built circa 1900 by the well-known Boh family of New Orleans. It is presently owned by Owen Brennan III of the equally well-known Brennan family of New Orleans. It has a fine polygonal bay on the ground floor with three gable dormers in the roof.

632 North Beach Boulevard, the Robinson/Tanner Home, appears in the *Catalog of the City Schools of Bay Saint Louis, Miss. 1915* as the "Concrete Residence of Mr. C. H. Robinson, Jr." Mr. Robinson was the secretary and treasurer of the Imperial Naval Store.

The Van Ness Tanner's purchased this home in 1979.

The home has an undercut front porch which is stuccoed and has arched openings and a central entrance which has a double-leaved door with transom and sidelights. The bracketed gable ends are typical of its period and the house shows virtually no exterior changes from its 1915 photograph.

The Lamb Home at 634 North Beach Boulevard is a two-story frame house with design features indicating a construction date shortly after 1900, but interior features indicate earlier periods. Probably one or more houses were combined or materials from them were used. Wide bargeboards were used in the interior and the entrance, which is in the second bay.

The Lambs purchased the house about 1955 from Mrs. Gaudet, and legend says that it was once the residence of the overseer of the Cowand Plantation "Elmwood." The house has casement windows and a large 5-bay shed dormer.

At the beginning of the 20th century a large section of property on Beach Boulevard belonged to Conrad Sick, a prominent naval products and timber merchant.

The property at 638 North Beach Boulevard was built by Mr. Sick about 1909. It is Colonial Revival style and has a handsome Palladian window in the front gable.

It is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Kennedy, president of the Bay Saint Louis branch of Union Planters Bank.

They purchased the home in 1974 and their first priority restoration project was a plaster frieze in the living and dining area. The house also has a cellar.

Mr. Kennedy reports that when he was a neighborhood child, he played "Tarzan", swinging from the large oak at waters edge.

On the adacent property, 644 North Beach Boulevard, were numerous buildings, including Mr. Sick's home. One cottage which is now located toward the middle of the property sat near the street and was the office for his operations. The property was later sold in individual parcels, but beginning in 1971, Frederic "Fritz" Eagan began to acquire them and restore the surviving buildings. Presently there are six picturesque and superbly restored cottages and a barn in his compound.

The houses are spaced among registered live oak trees on acres of manicured grounds. Each of the four Eagan children has laid claim to his or her favorite: Ellen's Cottage, Polly's Cottage, Debby's Cottage and Rick's Cottage, and of course, Fritz's and Peggy's Cottage.



The Kennedy Home
638 North Beach Boulevard



Eagan Compound
644 North Beach Boulevard



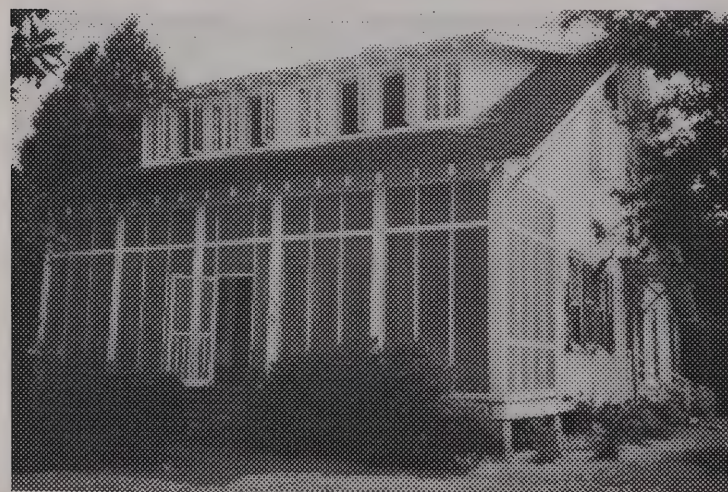
The Eagan Compound
646 North Beach Boulevard



Kohler/Thomas Home
646 North Beach Boulevard



Maurice Eagan Home
647 North Beach Boulevard



Chamberlain Home
648 North Beach Boulevard

The Kohler/Thomas residence at 646 North Beach was built circa 1920. It is bungalow style, one and one-half story house with a hip roof, undercut gallery and a three-window shed dormer. Supporting the roof are pairs of pyramidal box columns which rest on piers of rusticated concrete block. It has a central entrance and the entire structure is raised several feet above ground level.

French doors open from the gallery permitting the house to receive summer breezes and provide beautiful views of the bay.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas purchased the house in 1961.

The residence at 647 North Beach was built circa 1925. It is a bungalow style story-and-a-half cottage with jerkinhead roof and exposed rafter-tails. It has a side porch and entrance portico, French doors, casement windows, a split level ground floor and upstairs bedrooms. Records indicate that it was built at least partially from the timbers of a wrecked barge that went aground in the 1915 hurricane. It was purchased by Mr. Eagan in 1962.

The Chamberlain Home at 648 North Beach Boulevard is a bungalow-style, one-and-one-half story house with a gable roof, an undercut gallery and an eight-window shed dormer. It has bracketed eaves on its side elevation.

The house, originally a one story cottage that was enlarged in the 1930s, was probably one of the Peerless Oyster Company houses that was damaged in the 1915 hurricane. The screened gallery takes full advantage of the view and the breeze year-round.

The Hadden Home at 700 North Beach Boulevard was built in 1997 on the site of Mr. Hadden's parents home which was lost in Camille 30 years earlier. The house has an exceptionally broad front gallery which, from its elevated position, gives one of the finest views of the bay.

In the early 1900s the Peerless Oyster Company plant covered five acres and their equipment was considered "complete in every respect". It consisted of five buildings, camps for the workers, fishing smacks and power boats, tow boats, a shipyard, fire fighting equipment and its own electric company and ice plant. It was destroyed by the hurricane of 1915 and its owner George Firsching sold his holding and moved away.

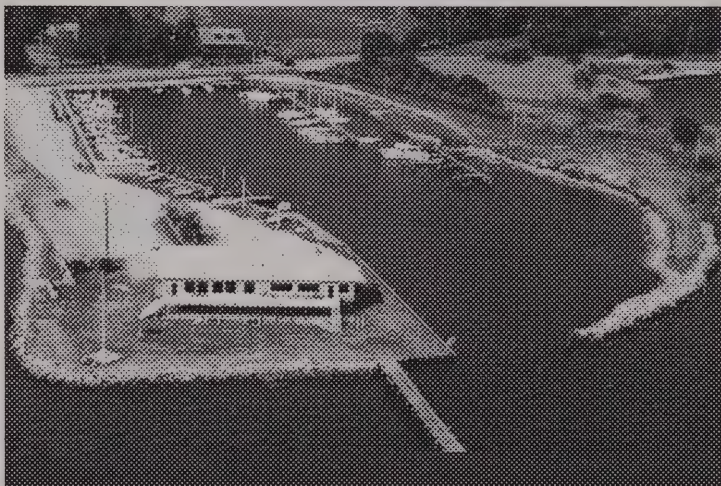
In 1896, the Bay/Waveland Yacht Club received its charter and started construction of a clubhouse at the foot of Washington Street. It held its first annual regatta in August of that year. The building was destroyed by a hurricane in 1915. In 1921 they purchased August Keller's building located at Washington Street and South Beach Boulevard where it enjoyed great popularity until the depression forced its closure.

In 1948 the club reorganized and purchased the Peerless Oyster Company property and built the building shown center right.

Richard Reeves purchased 706 North Beach Boulevard in 1960. The home sustained nearly three feet of water in Hurricane Camille but the family rode out the storm safely on the second floor. The high-water mark has been retained on an interior wall as a reminder.



Hadden Home
700 North Beach Boulevard



Bay/Waveland Yacht Club
701 North Beach Boulevard



Reeves Home
706 North Beach Boulevard



Worrel/Rivé Home "Breezy Manor"
800 North Beach Boulevard



Cowand/Kimbrough/Johnson House
806 North Beach Boulevard



Pitcher/Taylor Home
808 North Beach Boulevard

The Worrel/Rivé Home, located at 800 North Beach Boulevard, was built circa 1890 in a classical late Victorian style with a projecting polygonal bay and a steep gable roof. The fine undercut gallery has three openings into the house to accept the breezes from the bay.

The terrible storm surge accompanying Hurricane Camille approached thirty feet in depth in the area of Bay Saint Louis. This house withstood the tremendous force of the water but its walls had to be re-secured by running chains through from the outside walls and tightening them.

Portions of the Cowand/Kimbrough/Johnson house at 806 North Beach Boulevard may well be very old indeed. It is believed that the Cowand family occupied what is now the rear section of this house while their plantation house "Elmwood" was being built between 1804 and 1818. This indicated that it was built by Melite Lessassiere from whom Cowand bought the property.

Until purchased by the Johnsons in 1994, it was the home of the well-known Hunter and Sara Dodge Kimbrough. Mrs. Kimbrough was also a highly respected artist.

The Pitcher/Taylor home at 808 North Beach Boulevard was built about 1890 to 1900. It is a rectangular building with a four-post undercut gallery and has an unusual off-center entrance with a transom over the door. This was a device not frequently used in earlier houses.

Mr. Pitcher reported that his father built the house at 800 North Beach Boulevard which is depicted at the top of this page.

The Taylor Home at 814 North Beach Boulevard was built in 1854 as a one-story slave quarter for the house next door at 816 North Beach Boulevard. At the time it had only two rooms with a porch across the front (long side of the building).

In the 1920s, the owner, Mr. Stream, had the house moved forward, turned ninety degrees and the porch enclosed. The Taylors purchased it in 1978, and have added a second floor.

The Larroux Home at 816 North Beach Boulevard was probably constructed in 1854 by Elizabeth Leibbrook who was a daughter of Jesse Cowand, owner of Elmwood Plantation, of which this land was a part.

After passing through several owners, it was purchased by E. P. Larroux in 1947 where he lived until he sold it to Mr. And Mrs. Joe Kelly in late 1997. It is undergoing a total renovation.

The large central hall opens onto the undercut gallery through a glass paneled door with matching side lights and transom. The four windows in the front façade are full length, reaching to the floor.

Elmwood Plantation, built in 1804 to 1818 was the manor house of Jesse Cowand's plantation where, before the war, 550 acres of Sea Island cotton were produced annually.

For a period after the war, sons Alfred and Charles Cowand resided in New Orleans but returned to the Bay and restored much of the lost glory to the beautiful old place.

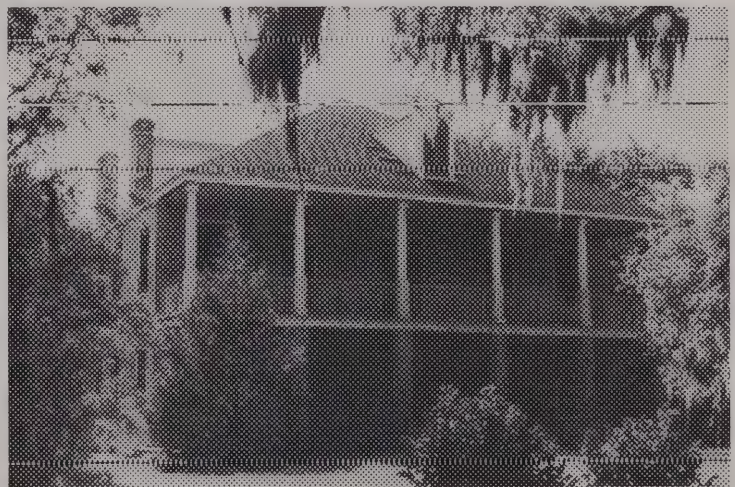
However, in 1919 it was sold out of the family to a corporation but returned to private ownership in 1947 and now serves as a summer home.



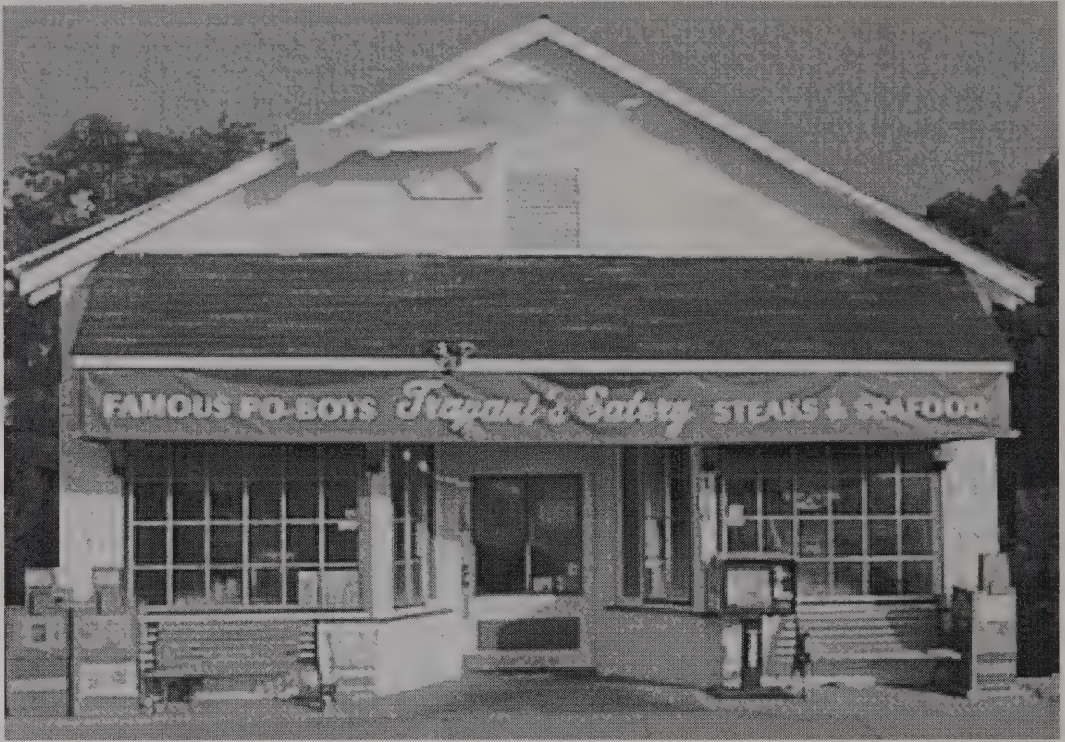
Taylor Home
814 North Beach Boulevard



Leibbrook/Larroux/Kelly Home
816 North Beach Boulevard



Elmwood Plantation
900 North Beach Boulevard



TRAPANI'S EATERY

Tony Trapani opened the Dutch Kitchen at Highway 90 and Waveland Avenue in 1935. In this two-story building he had living quarters, operated and restaurant and had a gas station. In 1937 he opened the Triangle Cafe at Main Street and Old Spanish Trail. And in 1939 he opened Trapani's Knock Knock Bar and Restaurant at 120 North Beach Boulevard.

At first it was a lounge with gambling, slot machines, crap tables, roulette wheel and Keno. Players would knock on the table to signal their win. Hence the name Knock Knock.

When gambling was removed from the Gulf Coast, Mrs. Annie Trapani's cooking became the chief attraction at the Knock Knock until she was killed in an auto accident a few years later.

Frank Trapani took over his parent's establishment and operated it until 1969 when Hurricane Camille completely demolished it. Rather than rebuild over the ruins, Frank moved the operation to Waveland where he opened the Knock Knock at Highway 90 and Waveland Avenue, the family having completed a circle to the place of beginning.

In 1997, Tony Trapani III, with partner Steve Pucheu, opened Trapani's Eatery on Beach Boulevard.

228 467-8570

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It was the 282nd day of the last year of the 19th century. A group of 19 investors opened the front doors of a rented building in Bay St. Louis on October 9, 1899. Thus was born Hancock Bank. With \$10,000 in capital and \$8,277.41 in investments, the bank was the first in Hancock County.

The bank's first branch was opened in 1902 in Pass Christian, and it established itself farther east in Gulfport in 1932. In the decades between its founding and its 99th birthday this year, Hancock Bank has prospered and has helped the Gulf Coast do the same. Through depression, war, boom and panic, Hancock Bank has provided a solid foundation for families and businesses

to build on.

Today, the tiny bank born out of necessity has grown to be a leader in commerce and investment. On the brink of a new century, the bank has more than \$2 billion in deposits, more than \$2.5 billion assets, and more than 100 locations across South Mississippi and Louisiana.

While the Gulf Coast continues to prosper, Hancock Bank recognizes its responsibility as a business leader to help the area's future shine as bright as its history. Our legacy demands it. Our customers deserve it.

We accept this responsibility and thank you for the opportunity to help you make the Gulf Coast a home for us all.

228 466-5905



We're Here For You

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HANCOCK COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

The Hancock County Library System began in 1933 as a Works Progress Administration Project. It was housed in the CWA building, now known as the Knights of Columbus building on Main Street.

In 1934, the library moved to the Hancock Bank building. It then had about 261 donated books with 100 registered borrowers. The city of Bay Saint Louis provided the library with a wood stove and fuel, and Hancock County offered lumber and workmen to build shelves. The first librarian was Miss Louise Crawford, affectionately known as "Miss Wissie."

By 1948, the library was moved to the grounds of the Knights of Columbus building, with a collection of 9,000 items.

In 1953, the Library Board of Trustees purchased the Plunket home on Court Street, and the library became known as the City-County Memorial Library.

In 1967 property was purchased at Highway 90 and Ulman Avenue and the new building was dedicated in 1976 and housed 60,000 books.

The Waveland Library opened in 1971, followed by the Kiln Library in 1977; and all three branches of the library system are "on line" with an integrated computer system.

The headquarters building was expanded and renovated in 1995, and construction has begun on the new building for the library at Kiln, which will be completed by 1999.

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EDMOND FAHEY FUNERAL HOME

Capt. J. M. Tyler came to Bay Saint Louis from Pickens, Mississippi to relocate his mercantile and undertaking establishment which he had founded in 1895.

After eleven years in operation, he died in 1906.

F. M. Banderet, Sr. followed in 1906 as owner of the company.

E. F. Fahey, Sr. came in as a partner in 1910, operating as Banderet & Fahey Bros.

In 1934, E. F. Fahey, Jr. joined his father in the business.

Mr. Fahey Sr. died in 1939 and Mr. Fahey Jr. died in 1947.

E. F. Fahey III has replaced his father and grandfather
at the helm of the company.

228 467-9031

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Kergosien Family Salutes Bay Saint Louis



Le Kergos, 134 Carroll Avenue

From sawdust to mercantile to public service and to land—and more in between. It all began when a young Frenchman from Brittany arrived in America in the mid 1850's to seek his fortune. Adolphe Kergosien was the first and only Kergosien in America, and even until today all Kergosiens in America are his direct descendants. Shortly after his arrival he met his future wife, Elodie Mauffray, who was the eldest child of Casimir and Josephine Mauffray. Casimir had immigrated earlier from the town of Treguier in Brittany. Adolphe and Elodie married in 1859 and produced 11 children - 4 boys and 7 girls - of which five lived to adulthood. Of the two surviving male off-springs - George and Alphonse - George had two daughters and Alphonse was left to reinvigorate the Kergosien family name in America.

Adolphe, though raised by foster parents in Brittany, was well educated for that period and had very graceful penmanship. His initial venture in America was to establish a lumber mill at the junction of Rotten Bayou and Bayou LeTerre in Fenton. The mill venture was successful, creating a multi-acre sawdust pile which was finally sold in the 1980's as fuel for an electric generating plant. Soon after the mill began production, he obtained

a ship captain's license and bought a boat with which to haul his lumber to New Orleans. He also established a general mercantile store in order to have a return load for his boat and to supply needed items to the mill workers and other residents of Fenton.

Adolphe, who died in September, 1912 lived long enough to see six of his children mature and marry. Two of the girls married Curet brothers, and the other two to Baker and to Martin. He also lived long enough to see his youngest son, Alphonse, enter into the careers of his lifetime after his marriage to Lavinia Cuevas, the great-granddaughter of Juan Cuevas. In 1906 Alphonse received his license as a Doctor of Medicine from the state of Mississippi, having apprenticed under Dr. E.M. Fahnstock. Soon thereafter, Alphonse enrolled as a full-time student at the University of Louisville College of Medicine, graduating in 1909 with an M.D. degree. Alphonse practiced medicine in Kiln and surrounding areas.

When failing health began to make horseback and horse & buggy sick calls almost impossible, he gave up his medical practice and entered politics. He ran for, and was elected, Clerk of Court of Hancock County and moved to Bay St. Louis in 1912. He enlarged the house he bought on Carroll Ave. in which he and Lavinia raised 7 children. Literally, every Kergosien in America today lived - directly or through his ancestors - in the Kergosien home on Carroll. Alphonse, a few years after moving to Bay St. Louis, bought the Powers Drug

Company on the beach, directly across from Hancock Bank. He renamed it Beach Drug Store - which was a "Downtown" gathering place for young and old. Virtually all of their children worked at some time or other in the store. Shortly after the purchase Clara Kergosien, a school teacher, became manager of the store and was soon joined by her brother, Laurent, who had attended pharmacy school at Loyola.

Laurent also established himself as a successful real estate broker - the firm, L.L. Kergosien, - is now operated by his son Ames. Horace, who served as a deputy clerk of court, had also engaged in real estate prior to and after his elected political career. In 1939 he was elected sheriff and tax collector - which was a combined office. After having served his four-year term in office (Mississippi law prohibited sheriffs and governors from succeeding themselves), he returned to real estate brokerage. Like Adolphe and Alphonse, Horace left a large legacy of off-spring - six children, 21 grandchildren and vast multitudes of great grandchildren. Horace's eldest son, Gregory Gaines (Pamps) who resides at the family home on Carroll Avenue, is currently the oldest living male Kergosien in America.

Kergosiens have spread from Bay St. Louis to California, Texas, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, Louisiana, and Florida as well as other parts of Mississippi. Though some of the younger members may not know some of the other family members today - don't let them fool you. They all came from Carroll Avenue.

All Kergosiens wherever they may be salute Bay St. Louis on this Tercentennial Anniversary. Our thanks for us having been, and being, a part of it!

NINETY-FOUR YEARS WITH W.A. MCDONALD & SONS



It was in 1904 that Mr. W. A. McDonald from Holly Springs, Mississippi moved into Bay Saint Louis and rented a home at the corner of Second Street and L & N railroad tracks. The founder of our company had one son, C. C. McDonald, and a daughter, Mary; and another son, John, was born soon after the family arrived in Bay Saint Louis. Mr. McDonald was looking around for a business investment in Bay Saint Louis and soon purchased the Bay Grain Company from J. A. Green. The company was located at the L & N freight yard opposite and slightly west of the present passenger depot. The early business of W. A. McDonald was

primarily feed and farm supplies, but several years later grocery items, Owensboro wagons and other items were added. The business was then moved to a building on Necaie Avenue, just at the crossing of the L & N tracks.

In 1925 "Mr. W. A.", as he had become known to so many citizens, built a new building at the corner of Toulme and Easterbrook Streets.

In 1927 "Mr. W. A." was joined by his son, John, as a full partner and the title of the company became "W. A. McDonald & Son".

In 1938, C. C. McDonald, the eldest son, merged his company with that of his father and brother and once again the company's name was changed by the addition of one letter making the new title "W. A. McDonald & Sons".

The founder of the company, "Mr. W. A.", died in January 1944.

In 1945, John McDonald returned from the U.S. Navy and soon added a new company, the Imperial Wood Products. The company was now engaged in three levels of business, with retail, wholesale and manufacturing divisions.

The company kept pace with the times and over the years some of the old favorites in merchandise have gradually disappeared. A few facts of interest gleaned from company records follow:

The company is the oldest Purina Feed dealer in the state of Mississippi.

In early 1930, the company bought in a single order, two carloads of Octagon Bar Soap. Today this product is almost unknown.

As the company entered the sixties the departments were expanded to keep pace with the times and to meet the demands brought on by two major storms in '65 and '69. Our area had received two devastating blows but rose to the occasion and rebuilt.

In 1967 at the age of ninety-seven, Mrs. W. A. McDonald, one of the partners and the wife of the original founder passed away.

Between the 1940s and the 1970s, younger members joined the company. In 1979 the two partners, C. C. McDonald, Sr. and John J. McDonald, both passed away. At this time the ownership was passed to Mrs. Iva May McDonald, widow of John McDonald, and James C. McDonald, son of C. C. McDonald, Sr.

In 1980 the company joined the nation's largest hardware buying group and became an Ace Hardware Home Center.

In 1987 the company ownership was assumed by Jim and Winnie McDonald, the present owners. Their daughter, "Mr. W.A.'s" great-granddaughter, Missy McDonald Blanchard, is presently involved in the management of the business.

228 467-5442

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DOCK OF THE BAY

The Dock of the Bay is one of our newer landmarks and one of the first structures to rebuild in our downtown waterfront area after Hurricane Camille in 1969. Built in 1974 by Ronnie Artigues, it is perched against the bluff along the waterfront in old town, and sits about 30 feet above the waters of the bay. It was purchased in 1976 by Jerry and Melva Fisher and after 22 years in business there, the “Dock”, as it is affectionately called, has become one of our favorite “best restaurants” on the coast. Its nautical atmosphere is enhanced by its location. A broad deck across the back offers great dining with a magnificent view of the Bay of St. Louis. Local regulars and tourists alike frequent the “Dock” for lunch and dinner for its variety of southern cooking, seafood dishes, great steaks, and warm casual atmosphere.

Melva Luke and Jerry Fisher (former vocalist with Blood, Sweat and Tears), left BS&T and New York in 1975 for the relative quiet of the Bay. They met while Jerry was doing concerts in Europe. Melva, born and raised in Bay St. Louis, frequently traveled to Europe and was there on holiday. They came here after they were married to work on music and be close to family. They purchased the “Dock” originally as a music workshop. After a few years with all this wonderful seafood, great old family recipes, and Melva’s special touch, the kitchen was added. These days you can catch a performance from the “Fish” only on special occasions.

Jerry and Melva’s Dock of the Bay is sweet music to the Gulf Coast’s restaurant patrons, and we’re proud to have them right here in Bay St. Louis.

228 467-9940

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SEA COAST ECHO

The *Sea Coast Echo* published its first edition on January 9, 1892 with G. B. Moreau as its publisher. In more than a hundred years it has only missed two publication dates, one when the publisher's daughter and the linotype operator both succumbed to the influenza in 1918. The second missed edition was in 1969 when Hurricane Camille ravaged the Bay.

The *Echo* was first located in a building on pilings over the water, but the weight and motion of the presses caused the building to sway to such alarming proportions that the plant was moved to the two-story building at Apothecary (State) Street and Front (Beach Boulevard) Street in 1903. The Cumberland Telephone Company occupied the second floor.

In 1956 the operation was moved to 112 Second Street, the old Woodmen of the World building at the west end of Court Street, where it remained until 1979 when it was moved to 124 Court Street, its current location.

Twice a week publication (Thursday-Sunday) began in 1975. The Hancock County Board of Supervisors is allowing the Hancock County Historical Society to copy its bound volumes of the *Echo* into a computer base, and the Hancock County Library on Hwy 90 has microfilm copies of many of the editions.

Ellis C. Cuevas became publisher in 1977.

228 467-5473



TRENDSETTERS

SALON & DAY SPA

Teresa Stanbro has been in the beauty business for thirty years, having studied with Vidal Sassoon, Paul Mitchell and a number of other famous hair cutters.

Among her favorite memories are from the period when she headed the styling team for the Miss USA Beauty Pageant when it was hosted by the Gulf Coast. Among the celebrities whose hair she has styled are Joan Van Ark of *Knotts Landing* and John James of *Dynasty*.

In 1991 she purchased property and had the present Trendsetters building designed to her own needs and plans. The modern ambiance provides relaxation and tranquility for clients while they choose from various pampering selections at her day spa. Every beauty need is catered to by her staff of seven highly trained and carefully selected employees.

Manicures, pedicures, haircuts and colorings, waxings, full body massages and facials are among the pleasures to be experienced.

228 467-6780

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BAYSHORE REALTY CORPORATION

ERA Bayshore Realty is a full-service professional real estate agency growing along the Gulf Coast. Founded by Herb and Patsy Dubuissou in 1984, the ERA Bayshore Team has opened doors for more than 3000 families along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The philosophy that "you can reach the top by treating people fairly and honestly" has brought ERA Bayshore Realty a long way. In an area flooded with real estate agents, ERA Bayshore has captured a major share of the market.

Realtors at ERA Bayshore Realty combine old-fashioned values and modern computerization to enjoy an edge over other realtors. From the ERA's *Sellers Security Plan*, the only guaranteed sales program offered nationally, to our home warranty and award-winning Internet site, we have the tools that help our agents make things happen.

Are you ready to sell or looking to buy? ERA Bayshore Realty, with offices located in Waveland, Kiln and Gulfport, can provide the professional service you desire. ERA Bayshore currently has a staff of thirty-seven professional agents. If you have any real estate need from property appraisal to rental management, selling, buying or relocation, ERA Bayshore Realty has a professional who can help you.

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Kiln, Mississippi
228 255-3622

640 Highway 90
Waveland, Mississippi
228 467-0244

12337-C Ashley Drive
Gulfport, Mississippi
228 832-2800



BAY TOWN INN

Bay Town Inn is the historic home of the de Montluzin family. The picturesque house is a superbly detailed, two story framed gable-roofed Colonial Revival dwelling. The ceilings are 12 feet high, cypress doors stand 8 feet tall, and the parlor and dining room are divided by sliding pocket doors. With 5,888 square feet of living area, the house consists of seven spacious and comfortable bedrooms with ornate ceiling fans and private baths. Each room is personalized with its own unfolding story of mystique. Downstairs are the de Montluzin Room and Martha's Room. Upstairs are Nellie's, Miss Bea's, Josephine's, Willia Dean's and Julius' rooms. Each is adorned with antique furniture and tastefully decorated.

Bay Town Inn is one of the few accommodations on the Gulf Coast that has a waterfront view not obstructed by busy traffic or buildings which hinder the magnificence of being on the water's edge. Bay Town Inn is located in Old Town Bay Saint Louis, along a ribbon of sand beaches and a scenic drive, Beach Boulevard, which traverses along the bluffs and ridges of seashore, from Bayou Caddy near the Pearl River to Cedar Point.

Unquestionably a relaxing getaway, the exquisite, historic Bay Town Inn is situated just next door to shopping, dining, dancing, entertainment and the charm of the Old Town District – all within immediate walking distance.

The owner, Ann Tidwell, invites her guests to use the living room for reading or relaxing and to enjoy the sea breezes which pervade the open gallery year-round. The breathtaking view over the bay is saluted by the sunrise and the moonlit beams upon the surf. The dining room offers a delightful breakfast which is heartily served at one's leisure and personal temperament.

228 466-5870

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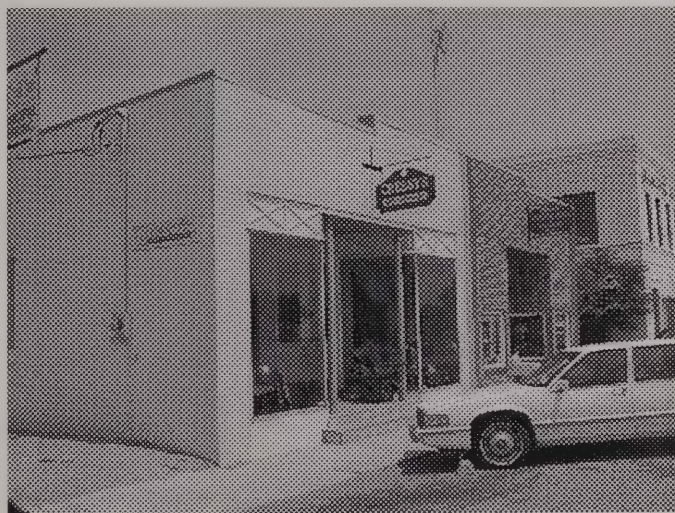
RUTH'S CAKERY

July 18, 1986 Ruth and Jim Thompson opened Ruth's Bakery in Waveland, located on Highway 90 near Highway 603. Due to high rent, a huge loan and only moderate business, they moved to 103 Court Street in Bay Saint Louis, January 1, 1988.

The business was an immediate hit with the locals. Ruth set up a coffee pot for self-service and hung cups on the wall. Soon the bakery became a clearing house for the town. Everyone came to eat and exchange information about everything under the sun, and solve all the world's problems. By 1989 business was flourishing to the point of 20-hour days, and the Thompsons decided to reduce the long hours and the multi-products, and specialize in cakes only. RUTH'S CAKERY, March 1995, is a growing cake business. Jim makes all the batters, doughs, fillings and icings. Ruth, an artist, decorates the cakes and paints in her studio next door. They hope to serve Hancock County for many years.

228 467-8201

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CHESSY'S

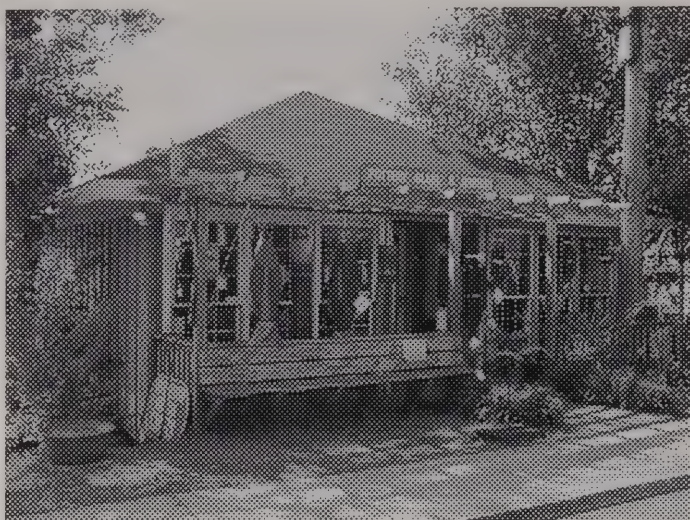
Chessy's Antiques was opened in 1997 by Clayton Frazar of New Orleans who found the ambiance of Bay Saint Louis irresistible.

When she discovered the former Mauffray Hardware building on South Beach Boulevard, she immediately set about to buy and restore it to accommodate her antiques.

The home of Thomas Shields stood on this site a hundred years ago. In fact, the town was called Shieldsboro from 1803 to 1875 in his honor. Joseph Mauffray opened his store here in 1905. It continued in business through his children until his son Alden Mauffray died in 1994. Beautiful antiques, art and wall hangings await your selection from the extensive collection at Chessy's.

228 467-1565

ADVERTISEMENT



BAY CRAFTS

Bay Crafts, nestled among the downtown restaurants and antique stores, is a unique little shop with a great view of the Bay of St. Louis. The building's history is as varied as the wares that are sold within.

Built by Ronnie Artigues in the mid-1970s, it was popular children's clothing store known as The Little Mushroom, owned and operated by Pat Seuzeneau. Sold to Jan and Keith Mitchell in 1990s it served the downtown as an equally popular beauty salon named Hair Works.

In 1990 Betsy Pincus and her late husband Barry, opened Bay Crafts which carries contemporary American crafts, including pottery, glass, wood and jewelry. In 1996, Southern Living discovered Bay Saint Louis and Bay Crafts, choosing the shop as a "Best Pick". The shop currently represents over 250 different artists and has educated, as well as welcomed, both locals and travelers alike in search of the perfect gift.

228 466-2501

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PAPER MOON

The Art Deco home of the Paper Moon is a perfect setting for the surprising collection of vintage clothes, 20th century collectibles, beads, contemporary art and handmade paper items.

The business was begun in 1994 by Vicki Niolet who has a great appreciation for items which were perhaps at one time abundant, but today stir childhood memories of older shoppers or give a glimpse into the past to the younger generation.

228 467-8318

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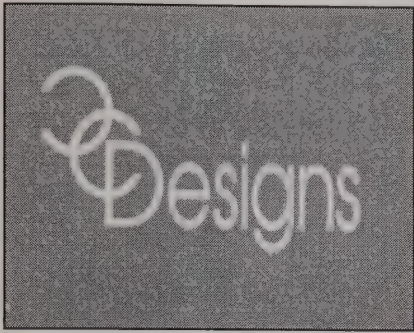
SERENITY GALLERY

Jerry Dixon opened Serenity Book Store at 126 Main Street in 1986, but was soon approached by several local artists looking for a place to display their works. The fine and rare books were quickly replaced by fine and rare art, due to near-instant community response.

The gallery now carries works by over 150 artists working in many media.

228 467-3061

ADVERTISEMENT



Carter Church Designs is located at 416 Main Street in a 1930s cottage that functions both as design studio and workshop.



Carter Church has been designing haute couture clothing and doing fine art design sketches for over thirty years.

He has received over fifty Alpha awards and the renowned Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Fashion

Group International for his designs in the field of couture, accessory, bridal as well as theme, theatrical and carnival costumes. Carter consults at his studio by appointment.

228 467-1612

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CAROLE'S OLDE TOWNE RESTAURANT

Carole Ripley came to Bay Saint Louis from New England in 1987 and fell in love with the town, so she stayed and opened a restaurant at 119 Main Street.

Mary Carpenter, a Cajun from Lafayette, Louisiana, joined the New Englander and thus put the best of two worlds together.

They are open for breakfast and lunch each day and cater wedding and private parties.

228 467-5687

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GIFTS BY THE BAY

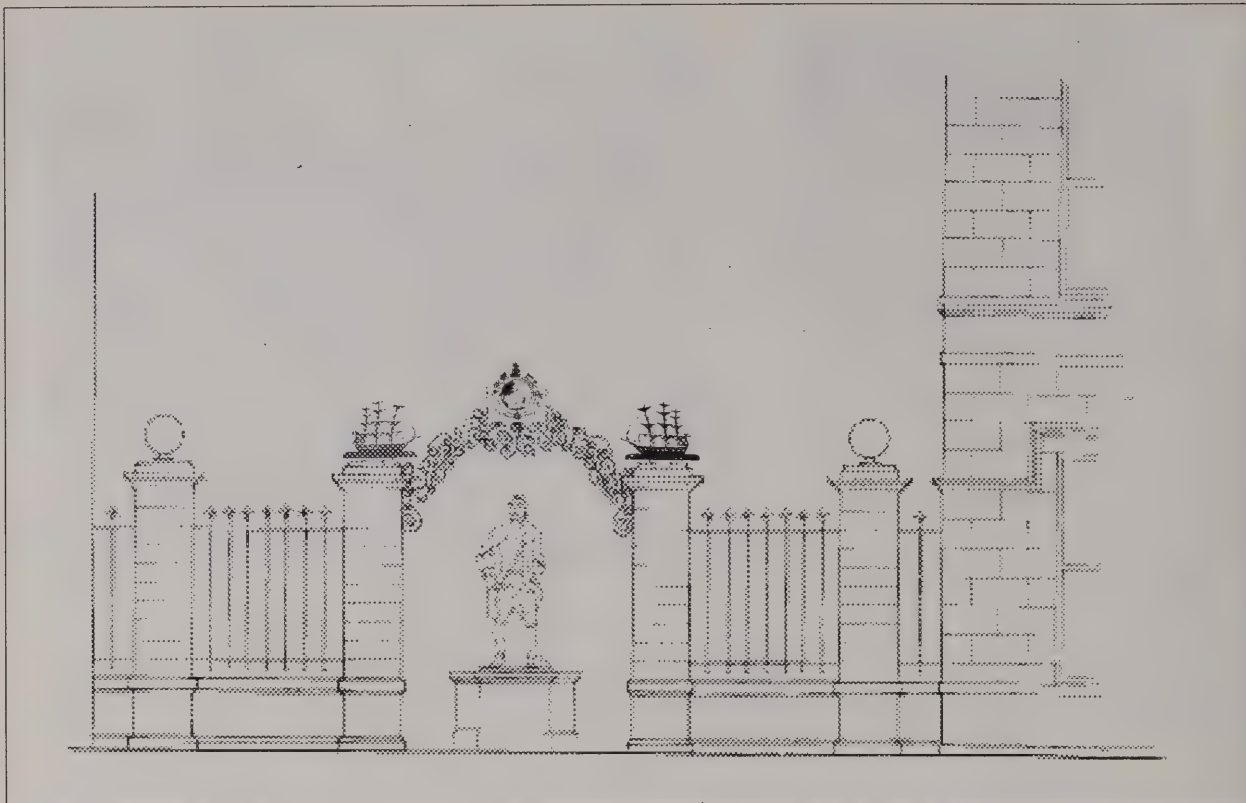
Transplanted from New York City, Carole and Nick Bianco opened Gifts By The Bay in 1994 at 113-A North Beach Boulevard.

They carry limited edition collectibles, works of art by local artists and unique gifts and games suitable for all ages.

The shop is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.

228 466-6337

ADVERTISEMENT



TERCENTENARY PARK

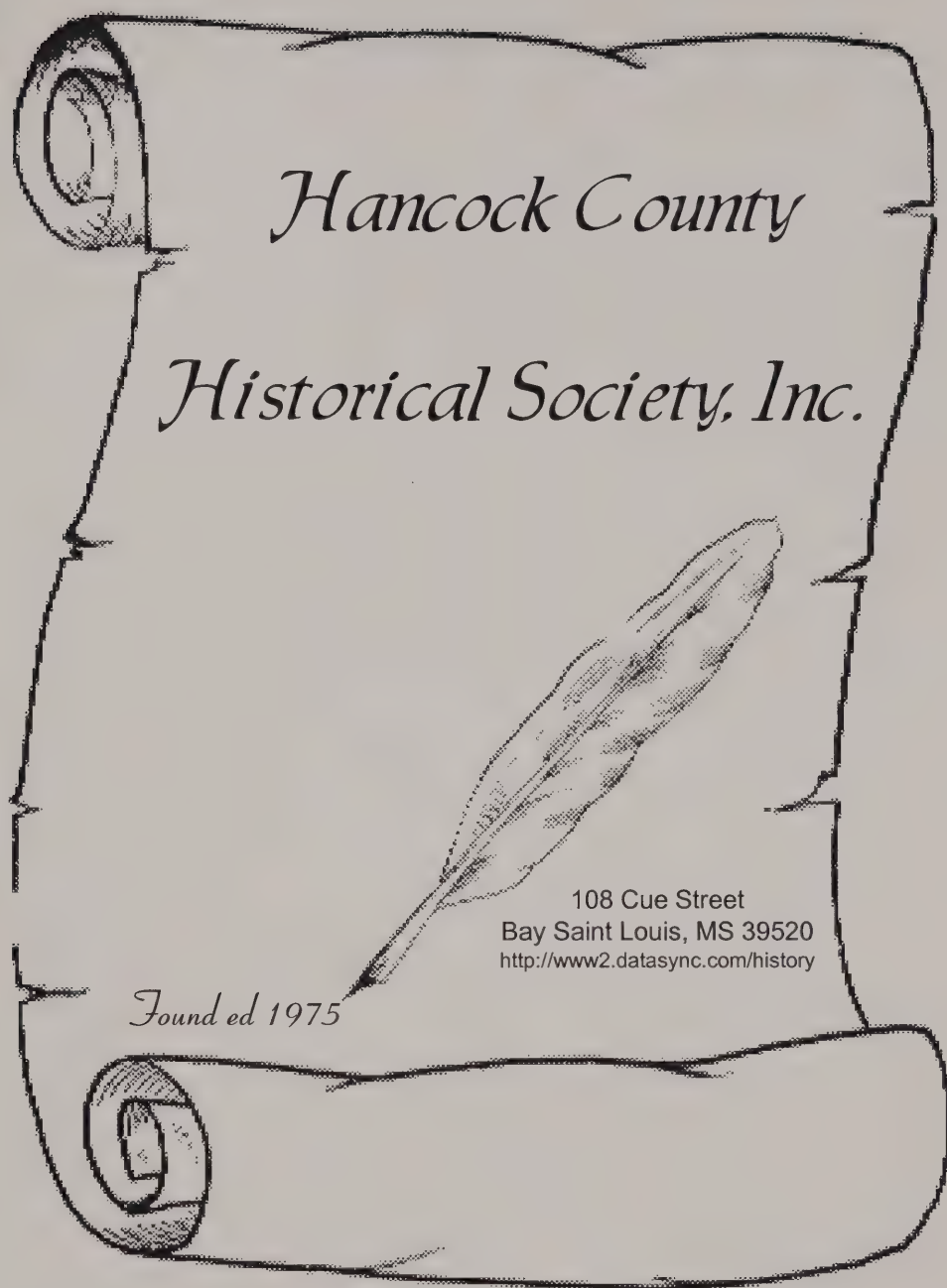
On August 25, 1999, the city of Bay Saint Louis will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the exploration of the Bay of Saint Louis by Jean Baptiste le Moyne d'Bienville in the name of Louis XIV of France.

In honor of this momentous occasion, the city of Bay Saint Louis and Leo Seal, CEO of Hancock Bank, have provided for a life-size bronze statue of d'Bienville to be created by Mary Ott Davidson. It is to be erected in the park next to Hancock Bank. The drawing above is a preliminary sketch of the park entrance by Kevin Fitzpatrick.

This page will be changed in later editions of this book as photographs and plans become available.

The statue will stand on a pedestal which will also contain a time capsule of items gathered by the Hancock County Historical Society. Among these will be a copy of this book. The capsule will be sealed on August 25th, 1999, and is to be opened on August 25th, 2099.

Additionally, plaques and bricks bearing names of individuals and families of the city will be used in decorating the park. A new city crest has been designed to go above the gate at the entrance and the likeness of Le Badine and Le Marin, the explorer's ships, are being designed to cap the entrance columns.



*Hancock County
Historical Society, Inc.*

Founded 1975

108 Cue Street
Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520
<http://www2.datasync.com/history>

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REFERENCE ONLY

HANCOCK COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
HDQTRS: CITY - COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
312 HIGHWAY 90
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39520-3585

REFERENCE ONLY

HANCOCK COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
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312 HIGHWAY 90
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